Mandela announces major concession

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela announced major concessions Wednesday to an opposition affiance in hopes of avoiding a boycoit of national elections and reducing the threat of civil war. We must treat the threat of civil war seriously. That is why we have gone out of our way to make these concessions." Mr. Mandela told a news conference after an emergency meeting of the group's policy-making national executive committee. The ANC dropped its demand for a single-ballor system in the April 20-28 election to end white minority Monday to approve the decision, Mr. Mandela said. This marks an important concession to the opposition Freedom Alliance, a coalition of anti-ANC white and black groups who have vowed to boycott the election and raised threats of political violence. The albance has said voters should cast two ballots in April — one for a national parliament and another for regional legislatures. This would give small, regionally based parties such as those represented in the alliance a chance of establishing power-bases in their areas of support.

Volume 18 Number 5541

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17-18, 1994, RAMADAN 7-8, 1414

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All-Palestinian Bank to open March 15

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - The Commercial Bank of Palestine, the first All-Palestinian bank on the occupied West Bank, will begin trading on March 15 with a capital of \$14 million, businessman Subel Gideon said .Wednesday. The headquarters will be in Ramallah with branches in Gaza and Jericho to open once autonomy begins, said Mr. Gideon, one of a dozen Palestinian investors in the venture, which has Israeli approval. The 38-year-old from Ramallah, who has just married Yasser Arafat's edepted daughter; said the bank has obtained a \$4 millionloan from the French government for private sector industnal projects.

Sudan denies civilians in south

KHARTOUM (AFP) - The Sudanese government Wednesday denied reports that its forces were attacking civilian tärgets in southern Sudan. Sudanese Foreign Minister Hussein Suleiman Abu Saleh told reporters here that the government had received message from U.N. Secretary General Boutros Gbali, Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, former U.S. President Janmy Carter and French figures he did not identify calling dog, the Howardie nai Reform, The s for a halt to the alleged attacks m the rebel-held south. But Mr. Abu Saleh said the appeals were based on "incorrect information about a government attack on civilians in soutbern Sudan." He said the battles there involved either rebel factional fighting or clashes between rebels from the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and army mobile logistical units trying to defend Britain jails 921 pt.

Barak term extended

per 100,000 iahaha Iraly has 56. (m) TEL AVIV (R) - The Israeli government decided on Wednesday to keep Lieutemant-General Ehud Barak as army commander for a fourth year, ending rumours he would e appointed defence minister. The government decided manimously to extend Lieute-Mant-General Ehud Barak's term as chief-of-staff." a cabinet statement said. He will stay in the job until Jan. I,

finally gave up Ties g authorities for the dall for woman who cut off man's penis

FRANKFURT-AN-DER-O-

evil" ... I am fed # s. the man said is quoted him as a already made her DER (AFP) - A woman who Cut off the penis of her drinkting in court to git ing partner with a bread knife e name Akuma (because he allegedly made her was nred of walled ruling. A spokers okyo Family (16) okyo Family He a sexual proposition was sentenced to three years in prison Wednesday. The court found Heidemarie Siebke, 31, guilty of branch said in spirit the case ward office approved at ruling approved ward office ward of mutilating Hans Kampioni. 50, while in a state of intoxication but acquitted her of attempted murder. After cutd the court miss ting of his penis she tried to set d the court grow d to appeal on grow social norms after fire to the apartment. Doctors were unable to sew back the man's severed sex organ. which was preserved in formaldehyde as court evidence of the events of October 1992.

Jordan, PLO say way clear for close interaction, report 'concrete steps'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisanon (PLO) ended two days of bigh-level talks here Wednesday indicating that the road has been cleared for closer coordination in the Middle East peace process.

The two sides also announced a broad outline of measures to protect the interests of both parties and decided to revive largely inactive committees dealing with various aspects of Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

The talks followed comments by His Majesty King Hussein that the level of coordination was not of the level desired by Jordan, and the Kingdom would be in a better position to help strengthen the Palestinian negotiating stand if there was closer cooperation. Information Minister Jawad

Anani, one of Jordan's key players in the peace process, underlined the headway Jordan and the PLO made in the latest meetings in removing suspicions and distrust.

The Amman meetings, he said, "came at the right time... people are serious and there are no inhibitions, no sensitivities. They have a specific set of phere of understanding that goals they want to achieve and they went for it."

We have agreed to continue to develop our coordination framework in light of developments, including the agreement in Taba," Dr. Anani said, referring to the ongoing Israel-PLO autonomy negotiations in the Egyptian Red Sea resort.

"We have taken certain concrete steps in the areas of economic cooperation, management, administration, movement of people, on the issue of displaced persons, and also eventually refugees," Dr. Anani said, "The meeting was good in general, it was productive, we need to bave more of these meetings."

A joint communique issued after the talks ended early Wednesday said the two sides "stressed that there should be a specific mechanism for coordination and cooperation in the peace process.... based on constant consultations and exchange of information in the bilateral and multilateral tracks of the peace process."

The communique, read out PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo, said the two sides "expressed satisfaction with the atmosprevailed during the meetings and which should enhance the coordination process ... to

reach to its utmost level. (This should be done) in all aspects and areas stemming from a point where it comes as a realistic response to the special historic relations" between Jordanians and Palestinians 'and the (common) challenges they face.'

Mr. Abed Rabbo, head of the PLO's information department and a close adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat did not answer questions. Offi-cials said the PLO delegation, headed by political affairs chief Farouk Kaddoumi, was pressed for time and rushed to the airport immediately after the joint statement was read out.

The joint statement said: "The higher committee reviewed the dimensions of the next phase and plans for joint action to deal with the expected developments in a manner that guarantees the formulation of a unified Arab plan which will ensure the achievement of Arab objectives and bopes and lead to a just, comprehensive and permanent peace based on international legitimacy and

(Continued on page 5)



RAMADAN IFTAR: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday hosted an Iftar in honour of members of the royal family, the prime minister, and ministers, the speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament, Arab and Muslim ambassadors and charge d'affaires in Amman, the chiefs of the Cessation Court and Higher Court of Justice, Amman mayor and the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry.

The Iftar was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad Ben Talal, the personal representative of His



Majesty, His Royal Highness Prince Hashem Ben Al Hussein. Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker. Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the King's military secretary. His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad and Prince Ali Ben Nayef, the King's private chamberlain. Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday held an Iftar banquet for members of the royal family and wives of government officials at Raghdan Palace.

Arafat accuses Israel of facilitating arms trade in West Bank and Gaza

PLO leader voices concern about planting seeds of 'another Afghanistan,' urges international community to intervene

'Many difficult problems remain to be tackled with Israelis'

By Wafa Amr in Tunis

PALESTINIAN leader Yasser Arafat accused the Israelis on Wednesday of planning to spark a Palestinian civil war and to "turn the occupied territories into another Afghanis-

tan" by facilitating arms trade. Mr. Arafat expressed worry about arms pouring in the occupied territories and grave concern over the possible repetition of the "Afghan scenar-io" inside the occupied territories after Israeli troops pull out from the Gaza Strip and

Contending that the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) takeover from Israel in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho will be fielded with mines, Mr. Arafat said Israel was trying to spill oil on fire by facilitating the purchase of arms by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, which have already been used against Palestinians to

Jerieho.

disrupt stability. There is a very terrible trade of arms going on under the auspices of some Israeli officers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, smuggling and trading," Mr. Arafat said in a joint interview with the Jordan Times and the London-based Guardian.

"In my opinion, this is being seriously and wickedly planned. They know that these weapons, while they are withdrawing, will not be used against them... then against whom will they be used?" Mr. Arafat asked in the interview conducted at bis office here.

Leaning closer to a desk covered by buge stocks of files and papers, with a serious and worried look in his tired eyes, the PLO chairman, raising his voice to a pitch, asked: "Are they imagining there will be another Afghanistan amongst the Palestinians? This is a very dangerous game they are play-

PLO officials have privately expressed fear of a civil war if Palesnnians did not restrain themselves and continued to purchase arms and solve their political differences through violence. The PLO-Israeli accord signed in September has caused serious rifts among Palestinians

Mr. Arafat was also challenged by his own Fatch group.

the backbone of the PLO, which is also divided over the accord. Immediately after the accord, three Fateh leaders were assassinated in Gaza. Assad Saftawi, Fateb leader in Gaza, assassinated in October, was Arafat's aide and personal friend. The assassinations. especially Saftawi's, alarmed

Mr. Arafat and caused him great sorrow. He vowed to do his utmost to put an end to inter-Palestinian fighting. PLO officials believed Palestinians working as agents to the Israeli intelligence were behind the assassinations. The recent distribution of arms in the occupied territories, they fear, might lead Palestinians to settle political and personal disputes through bloodshed and

"Some of these weapons have been used against stability in the occupied territories, and I have received many complaints from our citizens, from the masses against what is happening," Mr. Arafat said. He said the arms "are falling into the hands of everybody

(collaborators, Hamas, the PLO), they are being made available to everybody, and at different prices. The price is not important, it is the policy behind it that is dangerous."

The PLO leader said his organisation discovered the Israeli role in facilitating arms sales immediately after the signing of the September selfrule accord. "The sales have accelerated in recent weeks,"

Asked whether he was sure involved in the affairs, he said firmly: "Do you think there is a mutiny among Israeli officers? This game is going on with their help, and this is not a

ioke." The PLO chairman was obviously unhappy with what be sees as the passive role of the United States and the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, particularly concerning this issue. He said he had officially informed them and the Israelis of the situation and cautioned them against the consequences.

Mr. Arafai dismissed the possibility that any Arab state opposing the self-rule accord

(Continued on page 51

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Deputy Toujan Faisal Wednesday refused to accept an unconditional apology from fellow deputy. Jamal Kreisha, for insulting her and throwing an ashtray at her. Her stand ended a special onehour closed-door session devoted to discussing the row and

which now centres on a Faisal lawsuit against Mr. Kreisha for "insult, slander and assault," appeared bound to continue as Ms. Faisal declared that the special investigative session failed to address the crux of the dispute - democracy and

"We paved the way to a peaceful democratic resolution Times.

"I said I was willing to abide by the decision that my fellow deputies took provided that we then make a precedent to solve future disputes of the sort." Ms. Faisal told the Jordan Times after the session.

Ms. Faisal said she told the session: "I will accept an apology from Mr. Kreisha provided that should I or any other deputy ever decide to swear at and throw anything at another deputy all I or whoever did it would have to do is say 1 am sorry and the issue will be dealt

According to Ms. Faisal, her fellow deputies refused to entertain her proposal. One Amman deputy denied

that Ms. Faisal presented such an alternative. "In any case such is not an alternative." he said. "It seems that Ms. Faisal is

no longer interested in an apol-

ogy but wants to have Mr. Kreisha's immunity against prosecution withdrawn from him." Mr. Masri said. "It was simple. Mr. Kreisha said he would apologise and

she refused his offer of an apology," said Deputy Abdul Karim Kabariti. Mr. Kreisha, speaking to the Jordan Times for the first time

since the dispute began last Saturday, said "I showed my readiness to abide the decision of Parliament. She refused. So there is nothing more I could

Wednesday's session was meant to resolve the dispute before the lawsuit filed by Ms.

Sales tax law moved to Financial Committee

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Lower House of Parliament Wednesday referred to its Financial Committee a controversial sales draft tax law despite opposition from some deputies who urged the draft legislation be rejected outright. The government presented

the draft legislation to the House as "an important part of the social and economic reform programme which will enable Jordan to receive foreign aid... maintain the stability of the dinar and build the Kingdom's foreign currency reserves.

It described the sales tax as part of the tax reform programme, and said it would encourage local production and exports, and investment and would "achieve more social justice." through protecting limited income citizens by exempting all basic goods and services from the new tax.

The government said the new legislation would replace the consumption tax which was introduced in 1992 and remove all its "negative aspects which appeared when it was implemented."

But the government's justifications for introducing the sales tax was rejected by Islamic Action Front (IAF) and other deputies who argued the draft law would increase the

tax burden and raise the cost of living for limited income

people. "The suffering of Jordanian citizens was awaiting measures to alleviate it, not to worsen it." said IAF Deputy Abdullah Akaileh, proposing that the House reject the draft law.

Dr. Akaileh said tax reform should come in the form of a comprehensive programme so that the House can assess tax regulations in their entirety.

Describing as untrue the government's statement that the new legislation would replace the consumption tax, Dr. Akaileh said the new goods and services that would be taxed under the new law would make it a new tax.

"The draft law is a requirement of the International Monetary Fund... and we understand that some countries cannot say no to the fund." but the government should invest democracy for the benefit of the people and "take cover behind the decision of the House which rejects

the tax." said Dr. Akaileh. President of the Financial Committee Ali Abul Ragheb said the government was committed to introducing the tax. pointing to talks Jordan is planning to open with the Paris Club of creditors next month and the consequences on the

(Continued on page 10)

No Israel-PLO deal yet on police; progress in other areas week ago Israel could stop

TABA. Egypt (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Wednesday sent conflicting assessments of their negotiations over the implementation of their Sept. 13 autonomy

accord. Israel said the two sides were close to an agreement on a proposed police force to patrol areas expected to come under

Palestinian autonomy. But the PLO sources said the two sides remained apart and could not agree over the size of the proposed police

However, significant headway was reported in the negotiations over the transfer of civilian powers to the Palestinians.

The PLO demanded a 10,000-strong police force. while Israel proposed a force of 6,000 for Gaza and Jericho. said a source elose to the PLO delegation.

PLO negotiators also pressed for the release of all 14,000 Palestinian prisoners before July 13, the date set by the PLO-Israeli autonomy accord for elections to be held in the occupied West Bank and Giza

israel objected to the creation of a 10,000-strong police force because most of the personnel would be recruited from Palestinians living abroad, the

source said. Such a force could mean the return of 25,000 Palestinians to the occupied territories if the policemen's families were in-

eluded, the Israeli delegation Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Israel will block any mass return by diaspora

Palestinians to the Gaza Strip and Jericho. "If the Palestinian leadership breaks the understanding we have and allows Palestinians to settle on the Gaza

Strip and in the Jericho region we will not hesitate to take adequate measures." Mr.

Peres told parliament. He noted that under the security deal signed in Cairo a

anyone from entering the autonomous areas. Mr. Peres added that it was

unrealistic to expect a mass return of refugees from the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli wars to Gaza, which is seriously overcrowded already, or to the tiny enclave of Jericho.

"It would be stupid to think that the security arrangements drawn up in Cairo for the Gaza-Jerieho (border) crossings could grant the Palestinians any sort of a right of return." Mr. Peres said. knocking down claims by right-

wing opposition figures. The chief Israel delegate here said the negotiators were close to agreeing on the com-position and duties of the Palestinian police force.

It is almost achieved." Major General Amnon Shahak said when he arrived for the third day of this round in the

(Continued on page 5)

depth investigation." Momeilo

Krajisnik, speaker of the "par-

liament" of the self-proclaimed

Bosnian Serb republic was

quoted as saying by Tanjug

news agency.

Canadian Colonel Michel

Gauthier, who headed the five-

memebr commission of in-

quiry, told the press in Zagreb

Wednesday that the mortar

bomb that also wounded 200

other people on Feb. 5 could

have been fired by either side.

NATO stands by Sarajevo deadline, denies ambiguity

BRUSSELS (Agencies) -The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) reiterated warnings Wednesday that a Feb. 21 deadline for the demilitarisation of Sarajevo would be enforced by air strikes if necessary and denied any differences with U.N. peacekeepers over the meaning of "control" of Serb heavy weapons around the city.

"There will be no extension of the deadline," a NATO spokesman said, referring to the midnight Sunday limit for the two factions to give up their weapons or face NATO

air strikes. He was speaking after a regular meeting of the ambassadors to NATO of the 16 member countries, who fixed the deadline on Feb. 9 after being asked by the United Nations to following the massacre of 68 people in a Sarajevo market. One NATO source said:

"NATO is firmly committed to

act if necessary, we hope the Bosnian Serbs will conform with our decision." The NATO ultimatum cal-

led for the warring factions either to withdraw their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo or put them under U.N. control by Sunday midnight, or face NATO air attacks.

"We will decide Monday if heavy arms are in fact under (U.N.) control or withdrawn beyond the 20-kilometre zone. Those are the two elements of the Feb. 9 decision; we have not changed them in any way." the source added.

In Belgrade, a Bosnian Serb leader said he was "very unhappy" with a U.N. inquiry that failed to determine the origin of mortar fire that killed 68 people in a Sarajevo market 10 days ago.

"We are very unhappy with

the results because the U.N.

commission of experts has not

carried out a detailed or in-

besieging Serbs or defending Muslims. In other developments: U.N. peacekeepers are seeking up to 3.000 extra troops to help demilitarise Sarajevo but are also preparing for possible

air strikes against besieging Serbs, a U.N. spokesman said, - Britain and other European nations with peacekeeping forces in Bosnia expressed alarm at the United Nations

(Continued on page 5)

House fails to end Faisal-Kreisha row

defusing it. The three-day-old dispute.

national unity.

inside the parliamentary dome. We, the deputies, were all on Ms. Faisal's side and pressed Mr. Kreisha to ready himself to apologise in the presence of his fellow deputies. But Ms. Faisal refused to accept the apology." House Speaker Taher Al Masri told the Jordan

(Continued on page 2)



Indian activist says Arabs should unite for their survival

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A renowned Indian politician and prominent human rights advocate is warning of an eminent Arab revolt against the American military presence in the Gulf and is calling on Arab and Asian countries to unite to achieve "peace with dignity."

Whatever their systems are, they must unite," said Professor Bhim Singh, who is on a current visit to the region. "It is in the common interest of all the Arabs."

An expert on Middle Eastern issues, and the question of Palestine, Prof. Singh, director and producer of the Delhi-based Voice of Millions T.V. network, is currently touring the region to produce a documentary film on "war and peace." (The half-hour film will focus on the "myth" of peace and "doubled standard" used by the United Nations regarding the Palestinian problem, he

The film, which will be seen by bundreds of millions in India and Pakistan, is the fifth film of a series entitled 'War and Peace in the Middie East that concentrate on the views of Israelis and Palestinians on the current situation.

"The common Israeli wants peace," said Prof. Singh. "But I don't think that the (Israeli) government can afford peace...their entire existence is based on anti-Arab and anti-Islamic values."

Prof. Singb, who has travelled almost the whole

world on a motor cycle as a missionary to promote international brotherhood and peace, said that peace in the Middle East can only be fully achieved with a complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the issue of Jerusalem solved to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

He criticised what he termed "American peace" and said that the "right peace is the one that can be achieved with dignity and

honour. The Palestinians are very sincere," be said. "All Arab parties have accepted Israel but not as a master in the

Middle East." Prof. Singh called on all Arabs to unite because, as he insisted, they have no other alternative. He said that they should talk and argue frankly because it is in the best of

"The Americans are the masters, the killers and the historians," he said. "The great champion of human rights and freedom has stopped the supply of baby milk, baby food, surgical instruments, medicines and textbooks to Iraq."

An activist of public interest litigation and civil rights, Prof. Singh as a student leader suffered torture and detentions in India, He was detained 54 times from

1958 to 1988, Prof. Singh, editor-in-chief of the "Voice of Millions." Wednesday left for Syria with his team Ms. Nasreen Hameed, assistant director, and eameraman Asbok

House fails to solve dispute

(Continued from page 1)

Faisal Sunday morning goes to

"But it looks like she will go ahead and press for a House vote on Sunday," Mr. Kabariti

After the speaker receives a court order to consider the case against Mr. Kreisha. Parliament will either vote on withdrawing Mr. Kreisha's immunity or refer the case to its legal committee. House mem-

Ms. Faisal's lawsuit, which seeks JD 1 million in damages. will oblige the House to show its willingness to lift deputies'

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immunity. A two-third majority vote is needed for lifting deputies' immunity against prosecution. Most deputies who spoke to the Jordan Times Wednesday said that they expected only a handful of deputies to vote in favour of lifting Mr. Kreisha's

Representatives of about 15 Jordanian women's organisations and political organisations appealed to Mr. Masri to lift Mr. Kreisha's immunity for his inncivil behaviour towards a woman, a deputy and a

A planned protest in front of Paliament was rained out and only two dozen people turned

Most deputies said Wednesday although Ms. Faisal had the "overwhelming sympathy and support" in her duel with Mr. Kreisha, she lost it after showing "obstinacy and an unsportive spirit" in having the matter resolved by parliamentary consensus.

"Her last words before the session ended were 'I will not let 'this' Parliament decide my

fate!," Mr. Masri said. "She showed amazing disrespect for all of us. She lost-our possible support by doing so,"

"Instead of accepting Mr. Kreisha's apology and winning everyone over to her side for being a team player, she turned us all against her by insulting our abilities as de-

puties," said one Irbid deputy who preferred anonymity. Ms. Faisal said she had not approached her Circassian community to come to her

defence but one branch of the community is holding meetings to see how it can support her. Mr. Kreisha said he swore at

Ms. Faisal and her community on the spur of the moment. "She got me upset and I said things, that's all," he told the

Jordan Times. Fawaz Maher, a leader of one branch of the Jordanian Circassian community told the Jordan Times that he was studying issuing a public statement along with Mr. Kreisha's Beni Sakher tribe that the Faisal-Kreisha dispute was a "par-

Mr. Masri, who visited Ms. Faisal twice in the last three days in an attempt to mediate the feud, said:

liamentary and not a tribal

"We consider this an issue between two deputies that will be solved in Parliament. We intend to protect our members from insults and assaults and expect those who wronged to retract their words and actions and apologise. But we can't do more than that."



three gunmen protrude from under the cover of

Five years later, Afghan wound still fresh in Russia

By Sergei Shargorodsky The Associated Press

a cart awaiting for the exchange of dead bodies

MOSCOW - It was 11:35 a.m. when the last Soviet armoured personnel carrier rolled across a bridge over the Amu Darya river, beading back home from Afghanistan.

"Hurray" Colonel Alexander Olyinik, a military correspondent who was in that vehicle, wrote down in his note-

Then he learned that a friend, Lt. Oleg Motakov, died of his wounds in the border town of Termez. Olyinik rushed to the hospital, only to find out the body bad beeo taken away, leaving an empty,

throbbing space.

"The wound of Afghanistan is still bleeding," Col. Olyinik wrote in the military daily Krasnaya Zvezda on Toesday, the fifth anniversary of the Soviet withdrawal.

Feb. 15, 1989 was the bitter and bumiliating end of a nineyear, 5I-day military adventure launched by the Soviet Union under the declared goal of belping a frieodly regime.

"It was always clear to me this was a grave political mistake of the leadership for with their blood and their lives," said former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who finally ordered the army to pull

More than a million Afghans reportedly were killed and about 5 million fled the Soviet occupation. The Soviet Union lost 14,454 soldiers, 13,883 of them on the battlefield.

But the bearded Afgban guerrillas, fierce Muslim fundamentalists backed by the United States io their "holy

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iranian

government bas approved the

formation of 76 political and

professional organisations, a

move apparently aimed at

channelliog growing dissent in

the country as economic woes

News Ageocy on Tuesday qooted Interior Minister Ali

Mohammad Besharati as

saying in an interview pub-

lisbed in Tehran's Ettelaat dai-

ly that he is prepared to license

all groups who accept the

"principles of the Islamic re-

He said the 76 groups, which

were not ideotified, were

among 400 "political groups

and guilds" which had applied

for interior ministry licenses to

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operate.

AMMAN:

Dr. Mukhles Halasa

Dt. Yousef Sammour

Dr. Issam Al Asmar .

Al Asema pharmacy

Nairoukh pharmacy

Yaepub pharmery ...

tandsan philosopy

Jamil Maraga ..

The official Islamie Republic

along with tales of beroism. war", would not surrender. "There was Vietnam, first a bmited contingent, then a 500,000-strong U.S. army that crawled back in bumiliation,"

day's Kremlin ceremony marking the anniversary.
"This was a lesson. But we did oot learn it. We repeated exactly the same thing. The lessons must be drawn, however bitter they might be," be

Deputy Defence Minister Boris Gromov, who supervised the pullout, argues the Soviets never lost the war. At a Veterans reunion Tuesday, he also said the continuing civil strife made many Afghans dream of a Russian return.

Mr. Gorbachev said at Tues-

"Nobody ever ordered us to win a war," Mr. Gromov said. "Our task was to prevent bloodshed. We could decide the question of winning a war — at the expense of great

But the book Mr. Gromov hoped to close as be walked over the Annu Darya Bridge the last soldier to leave the Afghan soil — remains open.

Russians are still dying of Afghan bullets, as Russiao rillas trying to infiltrate into Tajikistan, a Central Asian country with a pro-Moscow government.

Some, like a bereaved mother who addressed the veteraos Tuesday, ask if Afghanistan was not enough. Our boys are still spilling their blood in those trouble

spots... who needs that?" she said tearfully. Afghanistan's ugly side is surfacing in movies, books and

newspapers. The veterans.

The four-paragraph IRNA

report, momitored in Nicosia,

did not elaborate or give any

indication whether other orga-

nisations may also be licensed.

ime in Tehran is baving to

come to grips with a mounting tide of discontent as the Isla-

mic revolution marks its 15tb

With a plethora of social and

economie problems swelling all

at once, as Iran's 60 million

people increasingly demand a

better life after a decade and a

balf of war and privation, the

government is struggling to

President Hashemi Rafsan-

jani, iocreasingly squeezed be-tween hardline fundamental-

ists and conservatives, is hav-

ing to proceed painfully slowly

EMERGENCIES

avert political upheaval.

But the fundamentalist reg-

Iran approves 76 groups

anniversary.

speak of drugs, torture, rape and killing that became a way

Svetlana Aleksiyevich bas published a shocking documentary novel called the "Zinc Boys," in reference to zinc coffins in which the bodies of Soviet soldiers were brought

Sbort stories published last year by Oleg Blotsky, a war veteran turned investigative reporter, depicted senseless violence and army corruption,

Many of the 320,000 veterans find it hard to adjust. The Soviet breakup left no legal base that could secure at least some benefits for the veterans and their families, and economic changes have impover-ished many of them.

About 11,000 invalids, including more than 4,500 in Russia, lack proper medical and social care. A comprehensive Russian state plan for helping the veterans and their families has not been implemented; Krasnaya Zvezda

The army has no programme of its own to keep the battlehardened veteran officers, and 30,000 of them service since 1991, the newspaper said.

The war is continuing for the 293 prisoners of war still in Afghanistan. According to Mr. Gromov, only 15 soldiers were released in the past two years, four refused to return and three died in captivity.

"Nobody deals with the prisoners' fate," said Mr. Gromov. 'We do bave to remember the dead, but God forgive me, we have to remember those alive

with badly needed economie

Several years ago, the gov-

ernment allowed social and

other organisations to operate

as political parties. But these

have had little real impact on

the political arena, which is

dominated by various loose

factions which gravitate

around leading figures or reli-

The hardline speaker of the

Majlis, Iran's parliament, de-clared Feb. 11 in the holy city

of Qom that the doctrine of

Velayat-e-Faqih, or govern-

ment by Islamic jurisprudence

as articulated by the late

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini,

is the only system that can

guarantee the preservation of the Islamic republic.

gious groupings.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

reforms.

LONDON (Agency) - British

optimistic

Rushdie

writer Salman Rushdie said late Tuesday he believed Iran would eventually have to lift the death threat imposed on him five years ago, despite the country's renewed insistence that he must die.

Speaking a day after the fifth anniversary of the death threat, which Iran repeated Monday, Mr. Rushdie told the BBC he believed: "A terrorist state in the end will be made to understand that it can't continue to behave like that." The Indian-born writer, who

is at work on another novel, incurred the wrath of religious leaders for allegedly blaspbem-ing Islam in his novel "The Satantie Verses."

Mr. Rusbdie, in London attending the European pre-miere of Steven Spielberg's epie film "Schindler's List," said he was pleased British Prime Minister John Major bad spoken out in his support.

Mr. Major said on Monday that Iran could not expect to enjoy "full and friendly relations" with the rest of the world until the sentence was

Mr. Rushdie said that. despite international pressure to lift the threat, he had not expected Iran suddenly to lift the death threat handed down in 1989 by Iran's late spiritual guide Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Monday's anniversary was the very day Iranian religious leaders could not retract, he said, adding: "I'm glad it's

"It's always a nasty day. The Iranians always behave as badly as only they can do."

The radical Iranian newspaper Jomburi Islami said Tnesday Mr. Rushdie is "gripped by the claws of death and no power can save him."

The newspaper, along with others on Tuesday, was commenting on the death edict.

The newspapers pursued the line carried by Iran's official news agency IRNA on Monday, the anniversary date, that even repentance could not save Rushdie.

No named Iranian gov. 1 ment official has so far made any public comment to mark the anniversary.

"If they bave chosen not to say something inflammatory that is something by itself, said a Tebran-based Asian diplomat. "Last year there was some excitement by hardline statements of Iranian leaders."

The Iranian newspaper Resalat said five years had galvanised the will of the world's Muslims. It brushed aside British Prime Minister John Major's request on Monday for Iran to revoke the edict, questioning whether he spoke for all England, let alone the world community.

caused the solidarity of pious Muslims around the world," it said. Newspapers quoted the 15 Khordad Foundation, which

"Five years of negative

efforts of Westerners... have

set a \$3 million reward for whomever carried out the death order, as also saying the fatwa was irreversible. Iran's Revolutionary Guards were quoted as saying Mr.

Rushdie "insulted over a billion Muslim of the world" and that he would "finally be punished for bis shameful deed." The Iranian parliament's speaker, Nateq Nouri, warned

Tuesday that the West should not spoil its ties with Tehran for the sake of "a wicked man." Mr. Nouri's statement came in a Tehran Times interview.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Family demands camels, woman for dead Somali

senal

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MOGADISHU (R) - A Somali family is demanding 100 camels — 60 of which must be pregnant — and a woman in compensation for the killing by U.N. troops of its grenade-throwing son. A Botswanan U.N. officer said the demand was presented by the family of Jama Adawill, who was shot and killed by a Botswanan patrol after being spotted at the World Food Programme office in Bardera town 10 days ago. Adawill, who was wanted for a grenade attack on an aid agency office earlier, ran out of the WFP office pursued by U.N. troops and tossed a last greoade before he was shot. "The family wants-compensation of 60 pregnant camels, 40 big camels and a woman or 50 extra camels. They say if their demands are not met then they want the soldier who shot their son banded over so they can kill him," the U.N. officer said. He said negotiations were continuing with the family. The customary blood price for a Somali mao's life is 100 carnels. Because of competition over water and grazing, Somali nomads have for eenturies divided themselves into groups, sometimes thousands-strong, which collectively elaim compensation for any injury to a member done by another group. The 25,000 strong U.N. operation in Somalia usually refers such requests for compensation to clan elders and rarely pays significant sums unless an investigation finds the killing was in

Ecevit: Muslim party threatens Turkish state

ANKARA (R) - Former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit bit out on Tuesday at the Muslim religious-based welfare party (RP), saying it threatened Turkey's secular system. "We think Turkey's secular, democratic republic and national unity faces a grave threat," Anatolia news agency quoted the leader of the Democratic Left Party (DSP) as saying. Mr. Ecevit's outspoken criticism of the RP has become the core of his Social Democrat Party's election campaign for municipal polls to be beld across Turkey on March 27. He accuses the RP of exploiting religion for political purposes and ridicules their promise of "fair rule for all." Recent public opinion polls tip the RP candidate as the next mayor of Istanbul's 10 million people, many of them migrants. Mr. Ecevit attributed RP's apparent rise in Istanbul to a culture shock suffered by disillusioned peasants who flock to big cities in search of jobs

Turkish singer pulls out of race for mayor 📑

ANKARA (R) — A long-haired Turkish singer whose ambition is to be president has pulled out of the race for mayor in the populous Istanbul district of Kadikoy. Baris Manco, 51, a TV personality known for his dark, waist-length hair and the Anatolian ballads he bas sung for 35 years, quit because politics was not compatible with his music career, bis brother Savas told Reuters. He said Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, seeking attractive candidates for the March 27 municipal polls. had told Mr. Manco bis foray into politics would not interfere with his singing. "But political and singing interests began to clash. Baris decided he could not do justice to both and could serve the Turkish people better with his art than as mayor," Savas said, "A person must first try on a garment before they bny it to see whether it fits ... it seems that this garment and I do not completely suit each other," Baris Manco toldreporters after meeting Ms. Ciller to inform her of hisresignation Monday. Mr. Manco, who joined Ms. Ciller's True Path Party on Jan. 21, says he still aims to become Turkey's next president after Suleyman Demirel's term expires in 2000.

UAE pardons more prisoners for Ramadan

ABU DHABI (AFP) - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has pardoned 84 more prisoners to mark the Holy Month of Ramadan, local newspapers reported. Sheikh Sagr Ben Mohammad Al Qassimi, the ruler of the UAE emirate of Ras Al Kahimah, had ordered the release of the prisooers who have served part of their terms and shown good behaviour. UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan pardoned 112 prisoners at the start of amadan on Friday.

Kuwait says it has recovered 35 per cent WASHINGTON (AP) — Kuwait has recovered about 90 per

cent of its production since the end of the 1990 war with Iraq, Kuwait's ambassador to the Unite Sabah, said Tuesday. Oil production has gone from zero to more than two million barrels a day, he said at meeting sponsored by the International Monetary Fund. The oil sector has recovered about 99 per cent and non oil about 85 per cent. The financial sector has recouped 80 per cent, while fishing and farming are only at 48 per cent of pre-war production. The ambassador said that after the war Kuwait had 700 oil wells on fire and that the country had no public services such as electricity, water or phones and no radio or television broadcasts. The government, breaking with the past, is intent on privatisation of dozens of companies owned by the government, and legislation is being debated in parliament to allow major foreign investment, the ambassador said. The telecommunications ministry will be privatised, he said. Kuwaiti parliamentarian lose immunity

KUWAIT (AP) - Parliament on Tuesday made history by revoking the legal immuoity of a member accused of assaulting

a policeman who allegedly found him drunk in a parked car with a mistress. It was the first time since the assembly was established in 1963 that a deputy faces trial by a common court of law. Abmad Nassar Al Shraiaan has denied the accusations and asked his fellow lawmakers to vote in favour of the revocation of his immunity so that he can demonstrate bis innocence. Deputies have accused the government of fabricating the incident, which allegedly occurred last year, in order to discredit the fragile democratic body.

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FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Ahu International Airport Tel. [08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

03:55 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) Sanua (RJ) 99:25 Aqabu (RJ) 99:25 New Delhi (RJ) . Beirut (RJ) Lumaca (RJ) Abu Dhabi (R1) Casa Blanca, Tunis (RJ) Bangkok, Calculla (RJ)

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DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Aqaba (RJ) Rome (RJ) Amsterdam. Chicago [RJ) Ahu Dhabi (RI)
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Senate, House speakers welcome Yemeni leaders' reconciliation efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — The lieves in unity among the Arab speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Wednesday welcomed the reconciliation efforts spearheaded by Jordan and aimed at preserving Yemen's unity and ending disputes among its leaders. Yemen's leaders are scheduled to meet in Amman Sunday to sign a document that would ensure the preservation of the Arabian peninsula nation's unity. established in 1990.

Senate Speaker Ahmad Lawzi said Jordan firmly becountries and is keen on preserving unity among individual Arab states and ending differences among their leaders for the sake of the ultimate goal of pan-Arab unity.

Jordan is happy to host a reconciliation meeting between the leaders of North and South Yemen to help the two sides achieve their aspired goal, said Mr. Lawzi.

House Speaker Taher Masri said that Yemen's unity. achieved three years ago, gave new impetus to efforts for enhancing solidarity among Arab

He said that His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to bring about reconciliatinn among Yemeni leaders stems from his keenness to preserve Yemen's unity and bolster solidarity among Arab countries.

Voicing parliament's wel-come of the Yemeni leaders in Amman, Mr. Masri stressed that the unity of Yemen was of concern to all Arabs, noting that Jordan would continue its efforts to bolster this unity.

Princess Basma says scouts', groups. Sometime and compensation for nother group. The Royal representation for the property of the Royal representation for the Ro

Highness Princess Basma Wednesday announced here that the Jordanian Society for Scouts and Girl Guides will soon open its first production project to ensure income for the society's activities and

The Princess, who is the society president, said that the scouts and guides have always spearheaded charity efforts and initiatives to serve the country under all circumst-

Addressing a rally of scouts and guides involved in the charity campaign in the Irbid region, Princess Basma gave no details about the society's production project, but noted that the proceeds would help the society attain its goals.

Thanking the scouts for their current contributions in raising funds for the needy, she said that the country takes pride in such efforts aimed at serving the under-privileged.

The Princess started her tour in Mafraq Governorate where she inspected the progress in the charity campaign which started at the beginning of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Addressing a gathering of dildren involved in the campaign, the Princess said that the national effort was part of the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development's (QAF) work to simulate solidarity among the people of Jordan.



"Through you and through your continued efforts charity work can be done every year. and through your role and efforts the campaign is certain to achieve its goals and objectives," said the Princess.

Altogether 3,200 children

fund-raising campaign in the regions of Irbid, Mafraq, Bani Kananah, Kourah, northern Jordan Valley, Ajloun, Jerash and Ramtha.

The Princess was accompanied on the tour by governors and heads of municipal coun-

Palestinian T.V. broadcasts could start airing in June

are involved in the month-long

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In June Palestinians in the Middle East could witness the birth of their own television station. If all goes well, founders say, a 200-member crew will start a four-hour daily broadcast from Ramallah in the West

At the outset, grouping qualified Palestinian personnel from all over the world, the television will air several social and cultural programmes over four hours. Soon afterwards the founders expect that the broadcasts will be developed to form a reguar T.V. station with special programmes in English.

French and Hebrew. The project, which is estimated to cost around JD 50 milliou, is being partially financed (equipment and training) by various Arab and European countries. The French government has donated an 1g million F.F. mobile studio, and several European countries including

Over 1m

students

current

Department.

enrolled in

school year

AMMAN (Petra) - The number of school students in Jor-

dan for the scholastic year

1993/94 stands at 1,235,573, of

whom 630,660 are males and

604,907 are females, according

to a statistical report issued by

the Ministry of Education's

Researches and Development

The report said the nomber

of school teachers in the King-

dom totals 55,216 and the

number of schools stands at

3.917, of which 1.083 are for 3

male students, 933 for females

The report also said that

there are 681 kindergartens in the Kingdom, two only government kindergartens while the rest run by the private sector.

and 1,901 are mixed.

Britain, Norway, Denmark and Spain have shown willingness to provide other equipment and training.

Basem Abu Sumayyah, cofounder of the proposed Palestinian broadcasting stanon, and one of the strongest candidates to be the first person to appear on the station's broadcast, said that the crew will be ready to start if all "obstacles" are removed.

The right of the Palestinians to a frequency and to obtain membership in the European Broadcasting Union were cited by Mr. Abu Sumayyah as the main political and technical difficulties that stand in the way of start-

ing broadcasts soon. At present, several Palestinian teams are receiving training in various countries. One of these teams, comprising 24 trainees, is currently artending a special training course at the Information Training Centre at the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation. The one-month course focuses mainly on the basic principles and overall

policies of administering and

broadcasting a channel. In March a second team will be heading for Egypt for another course. More than 100 experts and cadres in international news agencies and media corporations will also be ready to join their colleagues in Jerusalem, where the offices are based, and in Ramallah, where the studios are stationed.

According to Mr. Sumayyah, all the staff will be ready to go to the territories "when the broadcasting

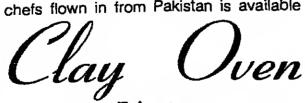
"We are almost ready," Mr. Abu Sumayyah told the Jordan Times. "The information and technical preparations are almost completed." According to Mr. Abu

Sumayyah, a broadcast journalist with Radio Monte Carlo, the television station will be based on democratic principles and "will be open to all levels of the society and will employ modern techniques and progressive methods in reaching the public."

WE ARE OPEN

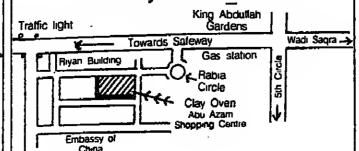
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UNESCO to focus on 3 education targets

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is concentrating its programmes on adult education, the eradication of illiteracy and basic education over the next two years, according to Abdul Oader Al Atrash, UNESCO regional director in Amman.

Speaking at a meeting with Minister of Education Khaled Omari and several UNESCO officials, Mr. Atrash said that the UNESCO office has prepared a programme of 4,000 teaching hours for first to fourth grade students - the basic education stage for chil-

In reviewing the Ministry of Education's activities and cooperation with the UN-ESCO office, Dr. Omari said that the ministry was eager to maximise its benefits from the UNESCO programmes in order to promote the educational system in Jordan.

Munther Al Masri, the ministry's secretary general, outlined the way in which the ministry can benefit from UN-ESCO programmes and the sources of funds to finance this project. Wajih Al Farah, director of research and development, said that the ministry was preparing six educational projects to be submitted to UNESCO for joint cooperation and to secure the organisation's assistance for their im-

According to Dr. Farah, the programmes include disciplines on education and democracy in Jordan, a national policy on education research, a symposium on the future of education in the Kingdom, development of educational management and a regional seminar on developing technology education in the 21st century.



Ministry to submit health insurance plan

to government, parliament — Malhas

Minister of Education Khaled Al Omari Wednesday meets with UNESCO Regional Director Abdul Qader Al Atrash. Present at the meeting

ZAROA (Petra) — Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas

Wednesday said that the minis-

try was proceeding with plans

to introduce a national health

insurance plan as soon as possi-

The ministry plans to submit

a draft plan for such a scheme

to the government and Parlia-

ment towards the end of April,

He said that the ministry

would ask that the plan be

given priority in view of its

important benefits to all sec-

tors of the public and in com-

nurses employed in the Zarqa

said Dr. Malhas.

were several UNESCO and Ministry of Education officials (Petra photo)

currently under construction. He said the new Yajouz

Hospital will accommodate 100

beds in the first stage, plus 50

beds in the maternity ward.

JD 5 million hospital project

was due to be completed by the

Yajouz Hospital construction

site and listened to a briefing

on the progress of the work by

the contractors. He urged

them to speed up the work

because the hospital was much

needed by the local commun-

Dr. Malhas stopped at Hittin

The minister was briefed on

refugee camp and listened to

the residnets' demands for im-

the medical services there by

district Governor Misleh

proved health services.

beginning of 1995.

The minister said that the

Dr. Malhas also toured the

2 brothers killed over land dispute

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Two Mafrag brothers were killed Tuesday evening and their two brothers were seriously injured after their half-brother attempted to kill the four of them following a family argument, police and

civil defence reports said. The suspect, identified only as A.A.R, told police that he went to the land that is owned by all the brothers in Um Al Kharoub town in Mafraq, accompanied by his own 18year-old full brother.

Upon arrival at the land they discovered that their four halfbrothers had removed the

fence that divided their share of the land.

A.A.R. told police the six of them started arguing about the marter, and when the argument became heated A.A.R. drew a gun and started shooting at his half-brothers.

A civil defence official told the Jordan Times that when officials arrived on the scene, two of A.A.R's half-brothers were already dead.

pliance with directives by His Police said they arrested the Majesty King Hussein. suspect and said he confessed Dr. Malhas, who was tourto killing his two half-brothers ing health facilities in Zarqa and the attempted killing of Governorate, opened several the other two. They also seized health centres and announced the licensed gun he used in the that the health ministry plans to set up accommodations for

Students' views on environment to be sounded through questionnaire

AMMAN (Petra) - As of the beginning of Marcb, the Minis-try of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment will start distributing a ques-tionnarie to students in Jordan to sound out their views about ways of nature conservation and the protection of the en-

vironment in Jordan. Fawzi Ekour, head of the ministry's Environment and Information Department, said students from schools, community colleges and universities would be asked to give their views about the environment and propose means for providing protection against pollution.

The ministry will randomly select samples of students in different parts of the country to collect their views in this

The students in Jordan constitute nearly 30 per cent of the total population, and their views, are, deemed important to help the ministry draw up plans for environment-related cultural-

In all, he said, 5,000 questionnaires will be distributed in this campaign and the students will be picked up from com munities in the badia, rural and

It is hoped, said Mr. Ekour, that the results of the survey would also contribute to the formation of national policies on the socio-economic de-

in the country. He said that the ministry's survey is part of a general

programmes, added Mr.

urban regions of Jordan.

campaign currently underway.

WHAT'S GOING ON Art exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre (6:30 p.m.-midnight).

Noting that a draft plan

would be submitted soon to the

Council of Ministers, suggest-

ing that the lodging be estab-

lished in Yajouz district near

the Yajouz Hospital which is

* Wood carving exhibition by artist Samer Ousama at the French Cultural Centre. Art and photo exhibition by several Arab artists at the Balga Art Gallery in Fuheis (Tel.

Abdul Rahim Malhas

Exhibition by Lehanese artist Hussein Madi at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. Also showing the "permanent" exhibition of 54 Arab contemporary artists. (Tel.

Art exhibition by several Iraqi and Jordanian artists at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).

☆ Film entitled "Driving Miss Daisey" on Thursday at the American Center at 2:30 p.m. (99

☆ Field trip organised by the Friends of Archaeology on Friday to the eastern part of the Kingdom (to include Umm Sarab, Deir Al Kaff, Sama Al Sarhan, and Jawa). Departure will be from the Amra Hotel parking lot by bus or private cars.

* Book exhibition at the University of Jordan.

⇒ Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre (7:00 p.m.-midnight).

☆ Drama in Arabic entitled "Flee From Death" at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday at

☆ Theatrical performances for children at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday at £:00 p.m.

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Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co Ltd., announces tender invitation No. 1/94 for the supply, erection and commissioning the requirements for gas turbine and heat recovery sleam generation project which shall include; building of one or two gas turbine(s) with power generator(s) having a total capacity of 6-8 MW. at Zarqa Relinery site, 50 ton/hr at 44 bar heat recovery steam generator (boiler) utilising independent liring and/or the recovared heat of turbine exhaust, fuel G gatharing system, diesel oil pumps and accompanying facilitias including all civil, mechanical and electrical works related to tha installations.

Contractors with full experience in the same field and ara qualitied financially and technically, and who wish to participate in this tender, are invited to submit their prequalitication documents not later than 12:00 hrs. on 19/3/1994.

Prequalilication documents should include the following: 1. Financial capability of the contractor, linancial references are to be provided.

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3. Detailed documents showing similar projects executed by the contractor, full names and addresses of firms and details of projects including contract(s) cost, and completion periods.

Rasults of prequalilication shall be announced and advised to participants as soon as they become available. Eligible contractors may obtain lender documents from the company's head offices at the First Circle, Jabal Amman, against non-relundable JD 300 per set not later than 26/3/1994.

Offers should be submilled by the qualified contractors to the company's head offices not later than 12:00 hrs. Sunday. 29/5/1994.

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Habits never die easily

THE ISRAELI government is making it a hahit to shift deliberately the centre of gravity in the peace talks from one Arab front to the other. What started out to be an avowed interest in moving ahead with the Palestinian track soon gave way to the Syrian front. After the Israeli-PLO bilateral talks stalled for a while, over differences on control of borders and the size of the Jericho area, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin started to shift his attention to Damascus after declaring that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad holds the key to the entire peace process in the Middle East.

But the initial euphoria ushered in hy the Clinton-Assad summit in Geneva in mid-January soon dissipated when Israel once again started shifting its focus towards the Palestinian

Meanwhile, the PLO had to make more and more concessions on its demands to keep its negotiations with Israel going. And when Syria's turn was up again on the occasion of the resumption of the bilateral talks in Washington Tuesday, Mr. Rabin rushed to make comments that were anything but comforting. Gone were the references this time to the pivotal role of Damascus, and in vent the expression of big disappointments. The alleged Syrian unwillingness to control the Hizbollah faction in southern Lebanon, something which Mr. Rabin interpreted as proof of President Assad's wavering on his desire to see genuine peace in the area. It appears as though the Israelis wanted to drop the Syrian sector once again for an additional period of time till they have concluded full agreement with Chairman Yasser Arafat. Since in fact, the PLO's negotiations with Israel are going forward at full speed on all fronts, be they political, security or economic, we wonder whether a breakthrough on the Palestinian front might not be exploited by the Israelis as yet additional leverage against the remaining Arab parties.

Such manoeuvring by the Rabin government is not conducted in a vacuum. It is possible, for instance, that the Israelis may truly be unable to cope with two serious peace negotiations simultaneously. When one track is on and getting warmer, the other track has to be put on the backburner. On the other hand, the Rabin government enjoys only a slim majority in the Knesset, and the Israeli public opinion is also highly polarised on the peace issue. But, even taking all these factors into consideration, there is no real justification for the Israelis to pursue a divide-and-rule policy with the Arabs if they genuinely want a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

Lack of complete and in-depth coordination beween the Arab parties to the peace process is not helping matters either. In spite of repeated calls for genuine cooperation and coordination among the Arab states, the goal still eludes us. Unfortunately, more rhetoric than substance appears to engulf all Arah efforts to put their own house in order. This is truly what enables Mr. Rabin to stall and procrastinate, not just his own internal consideration. The man is simply predicating his policies on the proposition that digesting one Arab party at a time would be infinitely more profitable for his

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ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Wednesday called on the Arab World to resist a kind of peace that would be imposed on it for the detriment of the fate of the future generations. Peace is only desired when it encompasses the pure sense of achieving justice, and equality and ensures respect for the nation's dignity, said the daily. Criticising those who advocate peace at any cost, the paper said that these elements seem to be ready to oppose the idea of any confrontation with the enemy that continues to occupy our land, and try to paint a picture of the imposed peace as if it is a victory for the Arabs over their Zionist enemy and the United States, the main ally of the Jewish state. While seeking peace, added the daily, one must not expose our future to danger and destruction, but rather seek to regain our rights and protect our interests. If this cannot he done now, let it be done at a later date in the future.

Loud voices that fall on lazy ears

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

Clearly, teachers play an essential role in the success or failure of the educational process, from kindergarten to university. Their command of the subjects they teach, their ability to convey sophisticated material lucidly and effectively, the philosophic or methodological approach they adopt, their commitment to their calling, their own personality (i.e. sense of humour, civility, patience, charm, charisma, etc.), and their familiarity with their students' strengths and weaknesses both as a group and as individuals are all factors which extremely

affect their performance, positively or negatively.

This we all know, of course, and we all agree upon. However, there are two peculiar practices, quite widespread among teachers in the Arab World, which many may not know and which many may not agree with me upon, but which I believe to constitute a major educational impediment and hazard. The first is speaking with a loud voice in class, and the second is speaking slowly. In most cases, the two occur simultaneously - i.e. teachers who speak with a loud voice tend to speak slowly, and vice versa.

I first became aware of the first aspect of the problem over ten years ago at the very outset of my university teaching career. It was September and the weather was relatively hot. especially during the mid-day lectures. Naturally, we opened the door and the windows. Increasingly, I found the students and myself constantly distracted by voices of other fellow instructors coming through the door and the windows, some from adjacent rooms but others (believe it or not) from relatively distant buildings. During most classes, we had to close the door and windows and suffocate. Alternatively, we had to open and shut them every few minutes. It was unbearable. Notice that I am not talking here about echoes of voices or whispers, but voices louder than mine in my own lecture room. At times I would ask myself: "Is this person addressing his students, or is he addressing the whole neighbourhood?" There were times when I had to ask some colleagues, many of whom reacted with surprise, to lower their

Over the years, I made it a point to listen to teachers at our public schools and at the various universities where I taught, and discovered (on the basis of my own statistics) that at least seven out of every 10 teachers in our society speak with an exceptionally loud voice. I have heard many of them say, proudly: "I lose my voice by the end of the day trying to make my students understand." No kidding!

The same semester, the second aspect of the problem was made known to me. Periodically, I happened to exchange view over my students' progress with a number of foreign colleagues, who happened to be native speakers of English and two spoke normally (as normal teachers do) in their classes. Several of them informed me that many of their students communicated to them the fact that they (the students) were unable to follow what they said (i.e. they spoke too fast) and that they were also unable to hear their voices clearly, even though these instructors spoke fluently and audibly enough. Some of the students told me the same thing. The said colleagues and myself thought a lot and discussed the issue several times, comparing notes and observations, and came up with the following.

"Language is like the air we breathe. It should fall softly on our ears and flow smoothly from our tongues. The voice of a teacher is not a bulldozer eating up a mountain but a gentle breeze in a May morning."

A major cause of this latter problem was, obviously, the noise coming from the nearby rooms and buildings. More importantly, however, it was also caused by the manner in which lectures were delivered and students were communicated with by the Arab colleagues and teachers spoken of above. Students in their classes got used to being addressed slowly (too slowly indeed) and with a loud voice. Naturally, they expected all teachers to address them in the same manner, and thus they found it difficult to follow and understand the minority who spoke to them relatively faster and with a relatively softer voice.

We know, of course, that good teachers must enunciate well

and must speak slower than most people in other professions and in other walks of life, but certainly nol as slowly as the teachers I have been talking about. In some of the quick statistical studies I conducted frequently, I found out that a fluent speaker of English/Arabic utters up to 120 words perminute, a teacher with normal speed about 80 per minute, and the slow teacher I have been referring to as few as 25 words per minute. This (the latter) is too slow and unacceptable.

I once taught a listening course to 25 students of various backgrounds. I played them a cassette containing news from the Voice of America specifically designed for learners of English. 90 per cent of them found the pace, slow as it was, too quick for them and the volume (high as it was) too low. To be sure, part of the inability to understand is due to the fact that the students are learners of a foreign language. True. Much of it, however, stems from the unfortunate manner of speaking they have been exposed to, a manner which also affects Arab students in classes conducted in Arabic almost equally.

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The implications of this two-fold problem are immensely worrisome. First of all, it accustoms our students not to exert any active listening or mental effort; the voice of the teacher will find its way to their ears if they bury their heads in the sand and they will catch the words even if they take naps in between. This is bad for, as a result of years of being exposed to loud voices and slow utterances, they develop not only lazy ears but also lazy minds, Good education is supposed to sharpen the intellect, not dull and deaden it. We want our students to be attentive and alert the whole time; we want them to listen intensely, comprehend quickly and respond promptly. Unfortunately, this is not happening much of the time. Many of them, especially those in the more advanced years, are already suffering from what amounts to a hearing/ understanding speaking handicap, as a result of an uninten-

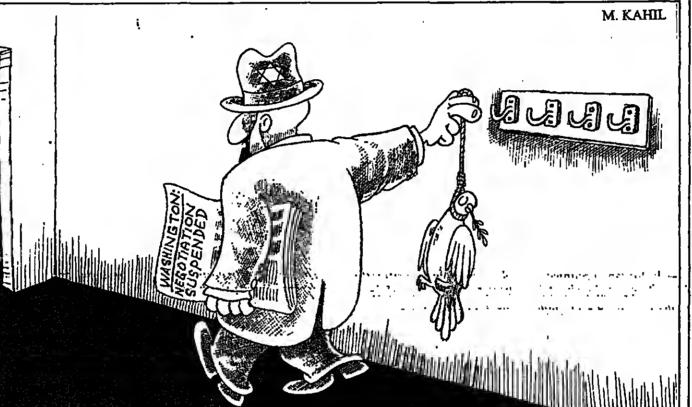
tionally destructive manner of speaking.

Language is like the air we breathe. It should fall softly on our ears and flow smoothly from our tongues. The voice of a teacher is not a bulldozer eating up a mountain but a gentle

breeze in a May morning.

What we have is a real problem.

The writer is a professor of American literature at Yar monk University.



Troubled peace process needs U.S. role

By James Zogby

DON'T be fooled by the applause that accompanied the Arafat-Peres signing of a partial agreement in Cairo last week. The Israeli-Palestinianpeace process is in trouble and may flounder without U.S. leadership.

The Sept. 13 signing of the Declaration of Principles (DoP) between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel did represent an historic breakthrough. While critics cited ambiguities in the accords. the important fact was that through the DoP. the Israelis and Palestinians recognised each other, setting the stage for meaningful negotiations to end their generations-old

Five months later, this negotiating process has vet to produce any concrete steps towards disengagement and peace. This inability to move forward is a function of problems inherent in the negotiating partners themselves: the weakness of both the Labour government of Israel and the PLO, and the asymmetry in the power relationship between them.

Simply put, Israel holds all

the cards: it controls all of the Palestinian territory and all aspects of daily life within it. As a result, the negotiating process has been reduced to Palestinian reactions to Israeli positions, all of which are presented as "firm and non-negotiable." The only options available to the Palestinian negotiators are saying "no" and threatening to abort the process. or attempting to whittle away at the "firm" Israeli positions in an attempt to win some facesaving gestures.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said as much in a Feb. 11 interview when he observed: "These negotiations are with ourselves. The Palestinians don't have so much to give us."

So the fate of the process resis in Israeli goodwill and the willingness of the Labour government to respect Palestinian rights and dignity. and to give the Palesnnians enough concessions to maintain the integrity of the nego-

This leads to the second difficulty facing the peace process, which is the fragile hold Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Arafat believe the other has over his respective constituency. While both leaders are invested in the process and publicly recognise the need to support each other's position, the PLO - as Mr. Peres accurately expressed it doesn't have so much to give; and Mr. Rabin's government seems to be afraid of giving more than it has already.

The product of this rather weak recipe has been an unpalatable stew.

In the days following the Cairo signing of a security agreement between Israel and the PLO, the Israeli press glowed with approval, saying that Israel got everything it wanted - control of air security arrangements while making few and primanly symbolic concessions. The Arab and Palestinian press simultaneously chafed at the insult of what were described as the "humiliating

agreements. Palestinian and Israeli extremists sense this weakness, and have used violence and harsh rhetoric to further constrain their leaders by exacerbating tensions and preying

If left alone under this scenario, the Israeli and Palestinian negotiators cannot successfully complete an agreement which meets both parties' minimal needs. Outside assistance, and specifically U.S. leadership, will be required to give each side the strength and support it needs to move forward.

While the U.S. has until now refused to become engaged in the negotiating process and will not place pressures on Israel to make con-

cessions, there are still important actions the U.S. could take to greatly assist the parties and make the process work. Two such steps. outside of the negotiating process, come immediately to

First, all parties have agreed that the question of Jerusalem will be left for final stage negotiations, and under the Madrid rules all parties agreed not to take unilateral steps to alter conditions on the ground during the negotiating process. Nevertheless, Israel fully acknowledges that it is constructing 15,000 new housing units (in addition to the 13,500 units begun by the Likud government which it is also completing) in what it describes as "Greater Jerusalem" — an expanded area stretching at some points more than I0 km from the historic city.

This building, coupled with the "security roads" and tunnels that Israel is constructing to connect settlements with each other and Jerusalem, is cutting the West Bank into several separate cantons, and serves as a daily reminder to the Palestinians of their lack of control over their daily lives and sharpens their fear of never gaining any semblance of control over their territory

A firm and public U.S. position against the construction within the occupied territories would enhance the integrity of the process and help bring about support a just and lasting agreement.

Second, a continuing concern of the Palestinians has been their inability to gain direct access to foreign markets during the 27 years of Israeli occupation. A single U.S. announcement that the terms of the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement would apply to Palestinian products exported from the autonomous regions would go a long way towards assuring Palestinians that they can benefit econo-

mically from peace. There is an irony in the current process: In war the victor-vanquished equation applies, but in peace talks it is necessary that both parties emerge strengthened. As the Cairo accords make quite clear, negotiations within the context of the current Israeli-Palestinian relationship and the lack of outside support have served to enhance Israeli strength while further eroding the Palestinian posiuon. But a weakened Palestinian authority will not and cannot produce peace.

Since both leaderships feel compelled to push the process forward, it may be possible for Israel to press the Palestinians to agree to their terms for autonomy and strip the Palestinians of even the trappings of sovereignty and dignity. But such an accord would be impossible for the PLO to sell to its already restless and angry constituency. In fact, such an agreement could only further weaken the PLO's position in the territories, and is a recipe for continued conflict.

Israeli Environment Minister Yossi San'd recognised this point when he suggested that forcing too many concessions from the Palestinians would weaken their ability to rally support for the negotiating process: "I think when we are talking about security matters, we have to twist the arms of our dialogue partners. But when we twist the arms, we have to be careful not to break them."

While Mr. Rabin may feel unable to offer more to the Palestinians, the U.S. can, without directly entering the negotiations, take steps that will open up the current impasse. It is a role we cannot afford not to play - it will help not only the Palestinians but the Israelis and the peace process itself.

The writer is President of the Washington-based Arab-American Institute. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Signs of economic war!

U.S., Japan head into alien territories

By Lyndsay Griffiths

WASHINGTON -Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa says his summit standoff with President Bill Clinton signals a more "grown-up" rela-tionship but analysts see plenty more problems before

the adults get along. Mr. Hosokawa is right that agree oo trade marks a break from past practice of U.S. by 11th-hour Japanese compromise, but that does not open up new territory for the

Indeed, analysts say the transition to equal partners may prove rocky as the two sides thrash out the bitter economic disputes they failed to iron out peacefully at the table.

"Japan is naturally resentful of big. powerful Uncle Sam telling it what to do but Tokyo needs to become a cooperative partner in world economic leadership if it now wants to play grown-ups." said Robert Blecker of American University.

While both sides would be happy to slough off the old lopsided relationship that dates back to World War II. the new post-cold war version may prove no better.

For it is economics, not security ties, that Mr. Clinton wants put to rights, and Mr. Hosokawa will find it near impossible to engineer quick, meaningful change so long as he is squeezed by recession. restrained by hureaucrats, brow-beaten by big business and beld captive by parlia-"The U.S. will not tolerate

mercantilism now the cold war is over but undoubtedly Japan faces a very hard transition," said Mr. Blecker. "Somehow the two countries have to compromise, and neither political system. makes that terribly easy." That point was driven

bome by the summit, when Mr. Clinton and Mr. Hosokawa failed to agree on how to cut Japan's \$60 billion trade surplus with Washington and give U.S. companies a better shot in Japan.

Mr. Hosokawa expressed regret over the impasse, but said it was better to disagree than to trumpet a bad deal full of innuendos that would only lead to more hostility down the road.

"Until now, we refrained from speaking candidly and saying what was difficult to say," Mr. Hosokawa said Saturday. "In the past, Japan settled for ambiguous agreements with the United States that later became a source of misunderstanding

"Now the hilateral rela-

tionship has turned into a mature relationship. - one

amotig grown-nps. Clyde Prestowitz, head of the Economic Strategy Institute, says it is high time for the two allies to start anew. "We've had strains for at

least 20 years and it has been put off and put off," he said. 'Sure, the newspaper editorials and academic economists will wring their hands and of a trade war but, done properly, this reevaluation could eventually prove very constructive."

Partnership of equals or not, Mr. Clinton is already studying what retaliation to take in light of Friday's faihere and has warned Tokyo that action might come sooner rather than later.

'We'll just have to examine what our next steps will be, and we'll be turning to that next week." Mr. Clinton said Saturday before Mr. Hosokawa bad even stepped onto his plane home.

The Washington Post reported Sunday that the Clinton administration has decided to impose sanctions against Japan on some im-

Citing unnamed senior administration officials, the paper reported that no decision has been made on which products to target with the sanctions.

The paper reported that a senior official said the administration, which has not given up bope of an eventual settlement, was obliged to act firmly after the summit fai-

Mr. Clinton is holding the option cards close to his chest but experts say the strikes may range from tough new trade acts in Congress to more dumping challenges and antitrust suits.

Analyst Stepben Cohen says the best formula is a simple one: Do unto Japan what Japan does unto America.

Make Japanese companies meet the sort of rigorous and often spurious safety standards that Tokyo imposes, for instance on U.S. apple exporters. Or anbject private lobbyists here to the same restrictions that Americancheerleaders face in their effort to influence the politic-

al process in Japan. "But the bottom ine is that such retaliation and counterretaliation could make things very nasty, especially when you have the world's twobiggest economies going at it," he said. "This lack of agreement is potentially very serious: first for bilateral ties, next for financial markets and, last but not least, for the entire international trading

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JWA gets new president — can he deliver?

By Mohammad Mashargah

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Byuage True Mud "Indeed it

e manner of pede hich also affect, to "Indeed it was moderation that won the election held Friday and it is extremism that was defeated." said Razzaz soon after his election.

The extremists have included those who either advo-

The extremists have included those who either advostudents not to be a voice of the least in they take naps of being export develop not only.

The extremists have included those who either advocated separation of politics from cultural matters or called for politicising the JWA, he noted.

The election of Razzaz by the JWA's general assembly was attended by Dr. Khaled Karaki, advisor to His develop not only.

Majesty King Hussein, who in 1987 served as the develop not only. We want our on the members. Most of the general assembly members members association president along with a members members. We want our our members members and the voting at Friday's We want our gate: d respond prompt. session, thus giving the election an added importance.

What is significant about the JWA elections was that they occurred at a crucial moment in Jordan's history as the country is undergoing political, economic and social changes with the intellectuals and the writers expected to play a key role in the evolution of the Jordanian

It goes without saying that these intellectuals and

writers who are mostly closer to public thinking and the man in the street than others due to the fact that they belong to middle and poor classes and constitute what one can call the society's barometre. They are different in nature than the other Jordanian intelligensia who are culturally isolated from the society irrespective of their academic background.

One can salely say that the JWA has always expressed public reaction in Jordan to the various political and cultural events of the Arab World and reflected various political and cultural events in the Kingdom since the

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

One can also safely claim that writers and intellectuals have always led the opposition groups in Jordan. They all belonged to political parties even under marrial law.

A veteran Jordanian writer and JWA member once said that the JWA has always embrassed political ideologies of all kinds and its membership has always served as a tool to enhance political groups' influences on the local communities.

Indeed over the pust years the JWA boards have been

elected as a result of secret agreements between the main political parties and behind the back of the general assembly. For this reason, many independent, liberal minded and creative academics in Jordan have preferred to remain outside the JWA. They have chose to save themselves the trouble of facing politically-minded elements inside the association.

In view of the political changes in the Kingdom and in the light of the relative democratic developments and the creation of political parties with their newspapers and forums, the role of the JWA has also changed in society. The developments prompted many voices from within the association and outside is to call for giving priority to cultural and professional activities over political ones.

But regrettably last Friday's JWA elections have proved that the aspired change was still far off as the politically oriented minds still dominate the scene.

This view is best expressed by poet Mohammad Amaireh, the Ministry of Culture's secretary general. who said that at least 60 out of the 300 JWA members have long since stopped writing any articles or books and opted for political and ideological trends.

In reviewing the names of the new JWA board that won the elections, one can find that more than half of them are affiliated to, or nominated by political parties.

which called for politicising the JWA — including Subhi Taha, Abdul Jabbar Abu Gharbieh, Nazih Abu Nidal and Muwaffaq Mahadin - failed while those who won the elections included a group whose members are still culturally active despite the fact that they still hold radical ideologies. These included Mu'nis Razzaz, who also heads the Arab Democratic Party, Hashem Gharaibeh and Suleiman Al Azru'i. Also three Communists. Mohammad Kharroub, Mohammad Midyeh and Muayad Al Utaibi, won seats in the new JWA board.

Those nominated on the strength of their views.

JWA's future

It seems that much depends now on the new JWA president to play a balance and rational role in managing the JWA, which now entbraces various political and idiological trends. It is through literary writing that Razzaz arrived at the presidency and not the other way round and he is the man on whom many intellectuals pin their hopes for introducing changes in view of his good relations with all JWA members.

But Razzaz's task seems to be a difficult one at the moment as his team is affiliated to various political schools at a time when the JWA faces such controversial issues like discussing the PLO-Israeli deal over "Gaza-Jericho first" option.

Palestinian women establish shelters, hotlines

By Karin Laub The Associated Press

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OCCUPIED JERU-SALEM — At age 11. Reem was raped at knifepoint by a teenage cousin. When her family found out five years later, they punished her for shaming them and a brother broke her right foot with a ander block.

"My mother cursed me and told me, 'you are dirt has turned into i elationship, — 🕮 and people are gossiping about you," recalled restowitz, head Reem, a 16-year-old beomic Strategy India douin with a cherubic face it is high time in framed by a pageboy hairlies to start any cut, ver.

had strains for Still, Reem is lucky. Unars and it has be like hiany, she had a place to escape from her family's newspaper edin -- buse and death threats: A accademic common better set up last fall by wer the possible Arab teminists. They say it urst such sanctuary in the Arab World, where vioitually prove in lence against women is often hushed up.

Since September, 50 teenagers have found temporary refuge in the fiveroom apartment. Its location is kept secret.

Reem, not her real name, has a chronic infection in her right foot and wears orthopedic sneakers. When police brought her to the shelter four months ago. she refused to speak.

"I didn't trust anyone," she said. "I dreamt all the time that my parents were chasing after me with a knife and I woke up scream-

She proudly showed her drawings of flowers and a scrapbook of photos of soccer players. Starved for affection, she idolises her counselor Hanan and called her "my good mother" in a poem.

Rima Assy, director of the centre, said she has space for 10 girls, but receives 30 placement requests a week and has to

While the shelter is a good start, she said, there is no follow-up. Several girls had to return home with no protection beyond pledges signed by their families in the presence of police that they would not be harmed. The shelter's founders are pioneers in a region where violence against women is often condoned

from seeking help. "It is accepted as a private matter that concerns only the family," said Hadiya Jarrad of the Democratic Women's Association in Tunisia, "The reigning mentality is that a woman can be corrected when she

and victims are discouraged

is on the wrong path." Information is sketchy, but there is enough to suggest the depth of the problem: — In Jordan, a country of

3.9 million people, about 60 women a year die in "hon-our killings," said Zuhra Sharabati, a criminal lawyer. About 500 women a year file assault complaints added, but the vast majority

of cases are not reported. — In Tunisia, 85 per cent of the 480 female assault victims admitted in 1992 at Rabita Hospital in Tunis were beaten by their husbands, said the Tunisian Democratic Women's Association.

— In the occupied territories, nearly all of the 107 Palestinian women reported slain by fellow Arabs as alleged collaborators during the uprising against Israel were in fact victims of honour killings, the Israeli human rights group Betselem said last month.

Nadera Kevorkian, a sociologist at Bethlehem University in the West Bank, cited the case of a Palestinian woman who was raped by a brother-in-law, got pregnant, gave birth last May and was critically beaten by relatives while in the maternity, ward.

She was moved to another hospital. Kevorkian pleaded with officials not to release the woman to The day after her release, the woman's body was found, hacked to pieces, in a plastic bag on the steps of the hospital, Ms. Kevorkian said.

In recent months, Palesti-1.0

nian women's groups have begun trying to help.

With money from donations and Israel's Welfare Ministry, the Association of Women Against Violence set up two shelters in northern Israel. The Organisation of Arab Feminists focuses on the 450,000 Arab women in Israel.

One of the shelters helps teenagers like Reem. The other, for married Arab women, is a gray two-storey house in an Arab village. protected by a spike fence and alarm system. It housed seven women and 18 children during a recent visit.

The Union of Palestinian Working Women's Committees, originally associated with the Communist Party, has established a counselling centre and two hotlines for the West Bank's 500,000 women.

Amal Khreishe, who runs the hotlines, said she got II calls on the first day of operations in January, some from women who had never dared to discuss their prob-

Among those seeking help was a university graduate who said she had been raped repeatedly by a relative and feared her secret would be discovered.

"She said her mother believes the family must kill any girl who has sexual relations outside the marriage institution." Ms. Khreishe said.

The caller said she was running out of excuses for rejecting suitors - marriage being out of the question because of her loss of virginity. As a result of the pressure, the woman said, she suffered frequent fevers and hysterial fits.

Ms. Kevorkian said Arab women often blame themselves instead of their attackers because they are taught to be subservient to men.

"We have a patriarchal society in which men control everything and women should act according to their expectations — being nice, being sweet, preparing food and staying at home.

Spanish TV viewers turn

man or woman next door.

est ratings on Spanish television as they bring the bizarre facts of everyday life into viewers' sitting-rooms.

troversial, with detractors saying the shows represent an invasion of privacy.

, part, how can it be an inva-Julian Lago.

Verdad" (The Truth Machine), which puts the loves and lives of magazine celebrities under the spotlight, and "Misterios Sin Resolver" (Unsolved Mysteries), both on the private Telecinco channel.

La Maquina attracts nine he said.

"Misterios" is a reality show from the old school. Eerie music plays as the camera pans slowly through a rain-sodden forest. The narrator tells the grim tale of a woman's body, discovered wrapped in a shroud with two candelabras placed carefully beside it.

"The mystery continues," the solemn voice concludes.

Lago dislikes being called a reality show host. "I am a bit baffled by the term 'reality show'. I think a generic definition is impossible," he said, adding that Spain's five leading buman drama shows are all very different.

Professor Alejandro Navas, who has studied the reality show phenomenon, says they first appeared in the United States during a fierce battle for ratings.

Spain's passion for reallife drama dates back about two years and can be attributed partly to economics, said Prof. Navas, dean of the faculty of information sciences at the University of Navarra in northern Spain.

"The networks have discovered that these programmes are cheaper to make than, say, action series,' said Prof. Navas, who also cited a taste for the morbid. "Real-life tragedy attracts us more than fiction."

Lago believes good reality shows fulfil an essential social service. "'Misterios Sin Resolver' is a programme with very important social consequences. It resolves problems which had long been ftozen in the courts," he said.

He points to an episode which featured the heartbroken mother of a man ity.
"It's like a type of drug,"

The sobbing, desperate

mother faced the camera,

pleading for her son's re-

lease. The camera moved

closer and closer until her

distraught face and red-

rimmed eyes filled the

A few days later, Lago

soberly informed his view-

ers that Queen Sofia had

been so moved that she had

granted the son a pardon.

"Remember, we are here to serve you," he con-

Prof. Navas does not buy

this vision of the reality

show. "They claim they are

providing a social service by

paign and shows it is not true that those who watch are only looking for slaughter," he said.

Hot on the heels of this seiback, came a second court ruling in January forbidding a key witness in one of Spain's most high-profile kidnapping cases from

Francisco Evangelista was due to discuss the trial of a couple charged with kidnapping mother-of-three Maria Angels Feliu, who disappeared in November 1992 and is presumed dead.

The exasperated producers have decided to suspend the programme for about two weeks. "We decided on this suspension because in this country there are problems with making free television." said Fernando Martin, a spokesman for

Lago has his own defence against critics who say reality shows allow too much public washing of dirty laundry: "Maquina De La Verdad' is a laundry and people come out a lot cleaner than when they come

Casualties mount as rebellion lurks among angry

By Michael Field Agence France Presse

WELLINGTON — Jokes about New Zealand having three million people and 60 lion sheep have taken on icthal meaning after official figures released here revealed the woolly animals are setting out to injure

A study by the Institute for Human Safety and Acci-3at Research said sheep e causing high rates of mjury to bumans, and osnally account for the Worst injuries on farms. For over a century in New Zealand, sheep have

been castrated, shorn, had their tails chopped off, and worst of all, at the end of their often short lives, they are turned into chops to be eaten with mint sauce and new potatoes.

But sheep often get their. own back, routinely charging and head-butting far-

Farmers are usually hit in the back or the knee. The butts often deliver severe injuries, such as broken vertebrae.

Under New Zealand's no-fault accident compensation system, people who suffer work-related injuries

receive earning-related compensation from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC).

The institute studied those injured and found that of the farmers seriously hurt by "contact" with sheep, one-third had been receiving ACC earnings-related payments for more than 500 days, indicating the likelibood of permanent impairment.

The report also described some of the events which debunk the idyllic rural lifestyle.

Crutching, for example, is clipping dirty wool from the rear end of a sheep an from this "event description," sbeep do not enjoy.

"While crutching, went in to catch a sheep and was hit from behind in lower back. Bones broken requiring four operations." Another crutching dra-

ma: "Hit from behind on tailbone by ram while dragging another ram out of catching pen for crutching." Another incident occur-

red when sheep were being taken in for drenching, dunking them in a chemical bath: "Moving sheep down race for drenching. Didn't see ram. Ram charged. Hit sideways below knee.'

Almost all New Zealand sheep have their tails removed while still lambs. It is not popular with the animals: "Just finished docking. Reached in to lift out dry ewe from pen containing ewes and lambs. Ewe jumped up and bit farmer in face. Seven teeth

knocked out." New Zealand has around 60 million sheep, compared to 3.4 million people and 9 million cattle.

It is not only sheep making the bucolic lifestyle rough. Institute researcher David Steele reports the move from riding horses and to motor bikes or all its toll on farmers. Not only do farmers roll them or misjudge the terrain, but they also hit unseen hazards and animals. "Collided with cow on

terrain vehicles has exacted

flat land," says one incident report. "Fell off bike. Bike bounced on top. Injured back.

Even in the vineyards it is war, said one incident report: "Pulling out canes in vineyard. Worker reached into bush to cut vine. Employer working on opposite side of row reached in to do same thing - accidentally cut off the top of worker's finger with secateurs."

ltalian devotion to pasta celebrated in museum

By Steven Heilbronner Reuter

ROME — For Donatella Antro, childhood memories of mealtime are filled with ups of dough that stuck okvo imposis. De U.S. apple to kitchen counters as they were moulded into pasta. As a working Italian mother, 34-year-old Antro will never stain her kitchen worktops with the residue of flour that built up over the years of use m her ^{mother's} kitchen.

pecially when world's two "I don't have time to make pasta myself." she sighed after taking a group of school children on a walk through history at Italy's Sirst Museum of Pasta, the

cial markets least for the country's national staple. The exhibition, tucked way in a square near Come's Trevi Fountain, fctures some of the rudimentary tools once used to mash dough and

slice it. It also houses a chronology of pasta-making that stretches to the 4th century B.C., when Etruscans mixed semolina flour and water before rolling it out into thin sheets.

It also serves as a reminder that pasta-making, though not a lost art, has fallen into the hands of fewer Italians.

Mass production and more women in the workforce make it far more likethat consumers like Antro will buy their fresh fettucini or stuffed tortellini at a pastificio (pasta store).

The Agnesi Concern, one of the largest producers of dry and fresh pasta, financed the Museo Nazionale Delle Paste

Alimentari to recognise Italy's top food export and its central place in Italian palates, a company spokesman said.

The official acknowledged that its sponsorship could help sales of its products in a fiercely comprotive market.

Barilla, the antion's largest manufacturer with a one third share of Italian production, employs a 150strong technical team whose sole function is to invent new shapes and sizes.

In the past three years, the company has launched 16 new varieties and guards its secrets like the crown jewels.

ploying 8.500 workers, are

not permitted on the pre-

Visitors to Barilla's seven production centres, emforeigners.

Exports, at 900,000 tonnes of pasta in 1992, account for an increasing stake of Italian production. France is the top importer of pasta, followed by Germany, the United States. Sweden, Japan and Switzer-

mises with cameras.

Italians topped the consumption list, with every man, woman and child eating 27 kg (59.5 lbs) of pasta products per year, nearly four times as much as the

But consumption figures don't account for the only differences in eating habits. the novel flavours of pasta,

Italians are less moved by such as black squid, betroot or even chocolate, than

"Anything that you can

put in pasta to give a

the pasta better," said Marcella Hazan, author of several best-selling Italian cookbooks. She said that any flavour other than the standard egg-

strange colour doesn't make

based yellow variety or spinach was a waste. Ms. Hazan said that socalled new tastes were devised for export markets, particularly the United States, which were always

demanding new products.

'Italians grow up and copy America. Then they get tired of it and come back to the same flour and egg pasta that they grew up on," she said.

Italy abounds with the resources required to produce pasta — hard durum wheat and water - and its accompanying sauces. Pasta

is plentiful and easy to cook but there is no simple explanation for its central place in Italian cuisine. "It was more or less born

here," said Ms. Hazan. "It's part of the land, the cul-Indeed, Italy's most

popular film maker, the late Federico Fellini, won an Oscar for Best Foreign Film in 1954, La Strada, about a peasant girl bought for a plate of pasta by a circus strongman. And then there is Bacic-

ship Galatea, who hired two cooks before setting sail from Genoa in 1351. In his log, Parodi wrote: "I can manage without a compass, but I do not feel

lasagne."

cino Parodi, captain of the

like setting out without

on to real life By Clar Ni Chonghaile jailed for six years for stealing \$28 and a pair of jeans.

Reuler

MADRID - Forget the jet-set casts of 1980s television soap operas, in Spain the new star of the small screen is likely to be the

"Reality shows" are grabbing some of the high-

Their success is con-

"If people want to take sion?" asks television host

looking for solutions. But I Lago presents the popular "La Maquina De La don't think they manage to find them.' He said viewers were anaesthetised by the stream of violence and gruesome facts and, finding themselves unable to react, plunged deeper into passiv-

million viewers at its peak.

cluded.

Paco Lobaton, charismatic presenter of state-owned TVE's top-rating "Quien Sabe Donde" (Who Knows Where), a programme aimed at tracing missing people, collected 400 million pesetas (\$2.8 million) for Bosnia through an appeal launched on his

show. "This dignifies the cam-

"La Maquina" ran into its own spot of real-life drama when a judge banned an episode scrutinising the relationship between a wellknown actress and her busband.

appearing on the show.

Telecinco.

in." he enthused.

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By Jean-Claude Elias

When I was studying informatics at Claude Bernard University, in Lyon - France, in the mid-seventies, we spent the whole first academic year without even getting close to the university's main frame computer. Except for a short visit to the data processing centre where we were only allowed to peep from behind glazed windows. we, the students, never touched the machine nor manipulated any of its controls. I can still remember the

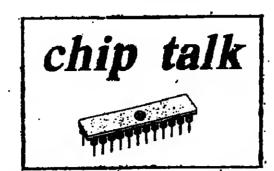
The first year's curriculum included advanced mathematics, programming theory, flow charts, analysis, programming exercises (on paper please) and

I can now think of three reasons why we were not allowed to physically touch, operate the computer by ourselves. The first one is that the French educational system, when compared to the American for instance. tends to put more emphasis on theory than practice. Both systems actually complement each other and none is considered absolutely better than the other.

The second reason is the very high cost of computers back then. Universities could not take the risk to let students damage equipment that was extremely expensive at that time. Personal computers (PCs) became commercially available only in the eighties.

The third reason, the most important of them, is still valid today. Before "hitting a PC keyboard", starting to enter data, typing or programming, a minimum preparation and thinking is required. Such preparation doesn't take a machine to do. It takes a human mind, paper and pens. Frentually, the most important part of the work will & done BEFORE moving to the machine. Processing it by the computer is only the conclusion of the task.

Word processing (computer typing) and games aside. one should not automatically sit before a PC keyboard and screen before studying the work to be done and deciding how it is to be done. Data processing professionals, more particularly analysts, are very familiar



with the procedure. They do not need computers to do

Informatics is a very wide topic. Many different specialties have been created in this field, satisfying very precise needs. Those who have to physically get in contact with the hardware are the operators, the data entry personnel, the hardware engineers and of course. most of the personal users. The others don't have to.

Even a PC user. who has a given problem to solve using his machine, should think twice before "hitting the keyboard". If the said problem takes some analysis the user should carefully study it before. do his "paper homework", decide which software is the most appropriate to process the job, and only then move to the machine. A lot of time and effort would then be saved. In some cases, failure to undertake the necessary pre-study might lead to unsolved problems.

The person who sits behind a PC monitor puts a certain amount of concentration on operating the equipment and avoiding manipulation errors. A little is therefore left to do extensive reasoning and problem solving. Doing this far from the PC. on a different desk. in a different room even, tremendously increases the

Data processing, informatics, computer science are not directly linked to machines. The latter are here only to process the work that has been prepared by the specialists. The rest is a matter of electronics and

Architecture — a problem-solving activity

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

Architecture is a problem solving activity. Architects concoct the future and honour the past. They live to design; to devise options out of nothing. Because of the architects' traditional role, with one foot in the construction industry and the other in the client's camp. architects have the responsibility of bringing together the volatile, often scarcely articulated requirements of the mass of people who use buildings, and the "money and time" driven logic of construction.

Architecture is an agent of change. The architect is the generalist who speculates on how the pieces could fit together in more beneficial ways. The architect must have the courage to face very agonizing issues: What is an architect's moral right to decide for a hundred, for ten thousand, for a hundred thousand or for two million people? But then what is the moral advantage in not acting but merely watching passively? The cruel dilemma is to really understand another's aspirations. Professionalism in architecture means having the ethic that comes with the responsibility of determining what ought to be done.

In more complex situations the debate has to be carried into thepublic domain. It is important however to recognise differences in strategic priorities depending on a country's level of economic and institutional development. We have to recognise that architecture, engineering and the design of spaces in cities is an extremely expensive and powerful industry. All over the world, this industry of buildings and infrastructure is extending and reshaping cities. Governments and pri-

vate investors are committing money, resources and time to train specialists in these fields. These specialists are, in turn, supposed to improve the quality of life for their clients. In terms of the overall balance of costs, the balance is negative: Far more costs and far less benefits. These specialists have to be challenged to demonstrate that what they are designing has anything to do with the necessities and priorities of the people living in urban

Yet, how can atban environments be developed in a manner which optimises the frequently conflicting requirements of increasing demand, limited resources and the need to create a unique sense of place to express cultural values, climatic conditions and local topography? Can we set up a criteria for assessment to balance the conflicting interests involved whereby development is economically viable, socially responsive and ecologically sustainable, while still bearing in mind the economic, institutional and technical constraints? How does what we do as a group (designers, builders, etc...) help mobilise resources which are not used at all - to help bring unused land, unemployed people and unwanted skills to some activity when previously they were being wasted? How does the design process contribute to the conservation of the environment, natural habitat and energy in the city? How can we advance local control over local resources to meet local needs in the process of designing cities? What are we doing in designing to give space to peoples' cultural identity, ethnic identity, social identity, cosmopolitan identity? And, how can built form help people to adapt with a world which is changing once, if not twice in a lifetime?

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

AMAZING FACTS

- Most snakes travel only a few miles from the place where they were born.

- Only 10 per cent of American women can whistle. - A thick glass filled with liquid will be more likely to crack than a thin one.

— A pig always sleeps on its right side.

- "Amen" means: So be it.

- Beethoven, the noted German composer, dressed so shabbily that he was once arrested as a tramp!

LET'S LEARN ARABIC

— Have mercy on me. Arjoo laka waktan tayyeban. — Have a good time.

Atamanna laka rihlatan jamila. — Have a nice trip. Tafaddal bil-juloos. - Have a seat, please. Kon mu'minan. - Have faith.

- Never have a secret disclosed.

La taboh abadan besirr. La tal'ab bin'nar.

Irhamni!

— Never play with fire. La tajrah masha'iraha. — Never hurt her feelings. - Don't have pity on liars. La toshfik alal-kazzabeen.

— Haven't you anything to say?

Alaysa ladayka ayyo shay takooloh? — Have you any difficulty?

Hal towajihoka ayyo su'oobat? Kaifa haloka? — How have you been?

YOUR MEDICAL GUIDE

ALLERGY

ALLERGY is a condition of abnormal sensitivity of the body to certain outside influence. The sensitivity is usually inherited, so that a similar condition may be to. I in parents and other members of the family. The outside ^ rior is usually a protein — that is a substance of animal c. regetable origin. Thus, for instance, a

normal person is not troubled by grass pollen, but certain people are sensitive to pollen which irritates the nose and the eyes. This is the condition of "hay fever" and the victim is said to be allergic to pollen. Other people develop a constriction or narrowing of the air passages when exposed to certain types of dust, etc., to which they are sensitive. This causes difficult and wheezy breathing - the condition known as asthma.

YOUR DREAMS INTERPRETED

KIDNEY: To dream of your own kidneys suggests that a medical checkup might be advisable. A dream of eating, cooking, or serving kidneys is a warning against speculative ventures.

JOB: A sort of dream of contrary. If you were seeking a job or lost one, you can expect a promotion or other beneficial event; but if you dreamed of being offered a job, it is a warning to pay closer attention to your responsibilities.

HUMOUR

A man appeared in court seeking a separation from

"On what grounds?" asked the judge.

"On the grounds guaranteed in the Constitution. You know-judge-freedom of speech."

CHECK YOUR I.Q.

(1) Can you add a "donkey" to the following letters and make them meaningful:

L - - - .CL - - - .M - - - .P

(2) What do the following stand for? a- msg. b- msc.

c- т/s. d- MS

(3) Find the missing number: a-2 7 24 b- 8 10 14 18 - 34 50 66 Attitudes in education

By E. Yaghi

From the students' point of view

(Those who play with fire get burned)

Even though Jordan has made remarkable progress in education, there is yet much to be desired. Although some of the weaknesses in education might be centred in the young themselves, a great deal has to do with the curriculum, the atmosphere and equipment of the classroom, and most important, the attitude and motivations of the teacher.

The minds of youth can be compared to an unplowed fertile field. The probability of a good crop depends on moisture, the right kind of seed and proper care tended to that crop before, during and after the seed is placed in the soil. Knowledge is the seed, and the instructor, the caretaker of the crop. How well then that crop grows depends on a large part on how it is taken care of.

Classroom environment is of the greatest importance. Is the room itself clean, well ventilated and does it have adequate lighting? The instructor is a vital part of class atmosphere. How does he act when he first enters the classroom? Is he polite? Is he a modal of behaviour? Does he greet his students with a smile to let them know that he is going to gently lead them down the path of knowledge? Does he try to make that trip exciting? Does he make sure that each student is provided with a textbook? Does he use eye contact with all his students and does he move around the room to hold their attention and does he involve his students in classroom participation in the subject he is discussing?

Does he employ the art of the three Fs, firm, fair and friendly? Or does he become a beast in class and rule his lecture like an unjust ceasar there only to show who is boss and continue to insult and intimidate his students as long as he is present? Does he take the time and care to prepare his lessons and try to have an enveloping worldly knowledge in order to properly impart and share what he knows with his target audience?

Teaching is a talent and unfortunately, not all teachers have a talent for teaching, which brings us to the motivations for instruction. Does the teacher, whether in elementary schools, secondary ones, or at the university level, teach because he loves to, or because its just a job to make money? Most students are usually sensitive to the teacher's attitude and will sense whether their instructor enjoys his profession or not. Imagine yourself a student at the university. You are waiting in the lecture hall for the appearance of the professor. He walks in with a smile (which is impressive) and in a voice that can be heard to all, says, "good morning class!" Since this is one of the first lectures you are taking this semester, you expect to be informed of the textbooks required for the course and also what this course is going to be about. The professor who is prompt and organised hands out a syllabus and writes the required texts for the course on the blackboard and tells his students if these books are available or not and where. He does not say, "Unfortunately, there are no books available but you can look for friends who have taken this course previously and either borrow or photocopy the material from them and by the next lecture, read the first two chapters of the book."

You might boldly venture to reply in such a case with, "but sir, we don't know anyone who took this course" last semester!"

And he might say: "That's too bad, it's your problem, not mine!"

As soon as your classes are over, you pester, beg and plead with all your friends and acquaintances to lend you a book but alas, no one you know has a copy so you rush home and to the disgust of your parents, hoard the telephone for hours'desperately trying to find someone. anyone who will have the book you are looking for. To your very bad luck, you find none and so go to the next lecture without a text as all the other 59 out of 60 students do. Not wanting to be embarrassed, you sit way in the back of the class praying that your name will not be called to answer questions of a lesson you know nothing about. After several fingernail biting days, you finally come across a precious copy and run with it to the nearest xerox place so that it can be photocopied but this process will take another few days, so therefore at the following lectures until you procure a book, you hide behind the pupil in front of you so that you won't be singled out to answer questions that sound like Greek

Obtaining an ample supply of texts is the duty of not only the professor but of the university or school itself. It is very unfair to expect students to be responsible for getting hold of a text if it is not available.

Another problem is the libraries. Suppose you were asked to write a research on an assigned subject for one of your professors. You skip to the library to check the list of books you were given for your reference material. Once there, you discover that none of the listed books are to be found in that ancient burial ground where books dating back to the Stone Age abound but no current publications beyond the 60s can be located. You ingeniously substitute some books to your own discretion after dusting off the layer of brown powder that accumulated there over the centuries and triumphantly tote the black recovered books that accentuate the morgue like atmosphere and go home to spend hours and hours on your paper. When at last your mission is accomplished, you wearily but proudly show your instructor your work. He just grunts and throws your pride and joy on the bottom of one thousand others and as you leave this silly nagging question pops to the forefront of your mind, as you walk out muttering to yourself: "I wonder what he ever does with all the dossiers when he finishes. Is he in some kind of business with a recycling factory?"

Many professors are very conscientious and quite efficient at their jobs, but there are a few in every faculty who tend to have the habit of boring their students to tears. Not only are their lectures tedious and tiring, but the material they choose for discussion is much the same and if you had such an instructor, you might yawn and groan; "When is this semester ever going to finish?

As for methods of teaching in elementary and secondary schools, often the technique of intimidation is employed. Students are sometimes harshly reprimanded for incorrect answers and are either struck in front of their peers or insulted making them form a negative attitude to education in general. Nothing works better than a positive approach in which the student is verbally rewarded for the right answers and encouraged to do better when wrong in such a manner that enables him to learn to love school and everything to do with it....

It is time that innovative measures were taken in the. field of education for it is the most important factor-thatshuttles a nation from the twentieth century to beyond 2000. Only a country committed to continually improving its standards in education will be truly progressive. Those staffed on the board of education should not be ultra-conservatives who dwell in the past, but brave men with young minds who have one foot in the future and dreams of making education a tangible entity inalienable to all, not just for those superchildren who manage to surpass insurmountable hurdles that hinder their quests. Teachers of all levels should be capable and graceful guides who escort their tourists to the exciting land of knowledge where untold secrets will be unlaid to those eager treasure seekers who just so happen to be our leaders of tomorrow and the builders of the future.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Feb. 17

8:30 Flesh And Blood

Rachel hates birthday parties, especially hers: but Arlo tells her he doesn't.

9:00 Da Beat's On

A weekly review of the pop charts in the U.K. with host Muhannad Al Jazireh.

9:30 Faces And Places

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week — Murder C.O.D.

Starring: Patrick Duffy and Chelsea Field

A hit man chooses and kills his victims, and then threatens the victims' families to pay him a big amounts of money. A series of such murders gets the police moving.

Friday, Feb. 18 8:30 Walter And Emily

Zak is having trouble dealing with his friends, his father seeks psychiatrist

Set Inem + se Dr. Steve handles a case of panic attacks, suffered by a young girl, while Kathy resolves to move to another hospital.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Scene Of The Crime

Somebody is assuming the character of Chris, a company man. By seeking the help of a judge, he gets not only closer to revealing the identity of the man, but to

11:10 Mind Your Language

Mr. Brown does not loose hope in his students, even after they fail their exams.

Saturday, Feb. 19

8:30 The End Of A Brave

A series in Arabic, subtitled in English. It is about the Lebanese resistance against

the French occupation. 9:30 Family Matters

Women seem to win in every bowling game, thus threatening the ego of their male partners.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Local Programme

10:50 Ferture Film - The Woman W Sinned

Starring: Susan Lucci and Tim Matheson

A killer who commits a series of murders but makes one mistake: He kills the wrong woman.

Sunday, Feb. 20

8:30 The End Of A Brave

9:30 You Bet Your Life

hosted by Bill Cosby.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Documentary — Out Of The Past

Signs And Symbols

Man's first attempts at using signs and symbols in writing are traced back to the Sumerians who lived in Iraq, and to the Mayas in Honduras, some 3,000 years ago.

11:10 Island Son The Slate Vs. John Kulani

Popular medicine practised by locals in hospital becomes a case for Dr. Kulani to handle in court.

Monday, Feb. 21

8:30 The End Of A Brave

9:30 The Torkelsons

The Egg And I

The advantages and disadvantages of early marriages is the subject discussed by Dorothy Jane and Kurby, while taking care of a baby at home.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film - Ver-

Starring: James Stewart

and Kim Novak

A wife suffering from nightmares is a victim of a plot. A private investigator reveals secrets and motives behind her murder.

Tuesday, Feb. 22

8:30 The End Of A Brave

9:30 The Respected Family

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Cape Rebel 11:15 Night Court

The Apartmeni

During Dan's birthday party. held at Judge Harry's apartment. Chinese magic captures all the attention.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

8:30 The End Of A Brave

9:30 Too Close For Comfort

Being a cop has never been

easy, as Henry tells Jackie when she considers marrying one.

10:00 News In English 10:20 Documentary -Forest Futures

Environment

A documentary programme about the forests in Malaysia that are: threatened by the environment and man.

11:15 Flight Into Hell

Based on a true story which took place during a flying trip from Germany to Australia in 1932, two German pilots find themselves stranded on a deserted shore under a burning sun.

Another milestone on the path to discovery, enlightenment and enjoyment

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The Mosaics Of Jordan

By Michele Piccirillo Edited by Patricia M. Bikai and Thomas A. Dailey American Centre of Oriental Research Amman, Jordan

384 pp., colour plates, maps, drawings Price: JD 103 in Jordan, \$175 elsewhere

So that you are hat sound like Gra in the modern scholarship of Jordan's history and antianities, there are a few books that stand out as enduring milestones on the continuous path to discovlibrary to chert a joyment. This book clearty elso setting a new standard of scholarship and printing About once a decade, a

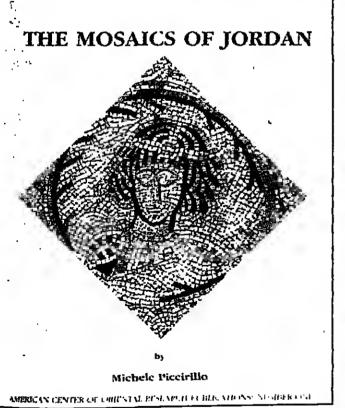
can be located yo major book is produced that captures an important aspect of the rich archaeological heritage of Jordan. and that book endures as a last your mission; reference tool for scholars in roudly show to future generations. This list is and throws you! iocludes works such as Bruennow and von Domaszewski's survey of the Araescion pops to b bian Province, Conder's does with all te survey of Palestine and Transjordan, Nelson Glueck's survey of Eastern Palestine, Kraeling's excavations at Jerash, Harding's pioneering poputar book on the antiquities of ectures tediousie Jordan, Browning's two e for discussion: : books on Jerash and Petra, an instructor, je and the recent three-volume this semester or bibliography of Jordanian satiquities by Denise Homes-Fredericq and Basil

.This votume on the mosaics of Jordan will join this select list, for several reasons: Its scholarly content and organisation, its comprehensive scope, its high quality of production, and its powerful graphic

The Mosaics of Jordan is the first in an ongoing series that will be published by the American Centre of Orientat Research. Upcoming votumes now in production will cover the Hercules Temple excavations and restoration at Amman's Citadel Hill, the excavations and antiquities park project at Madaba, and the Byzantine church excavations at Petra. The income from the sales of this book will be used to finance the printing of other votumes in the series.

This book is a targe (15×32 cm) volume printed in fult colonr on high quality paper with impressive hard cover binding. Its 384 pages, include 303 pages in fult colour, bring together in a single volume all the known mosaics of Jordan from the Roman, Byzantine and Umayyad periods. It is Jordan's contribution to the effort by the Association Internationale pour l'Etude de la Mosaique Antique to document alt ancient

The book was written and compiled by Micbete Piccirillo, an Italian archaeologist at the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum in Jerusalem, which is part of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, Father Piccirillo. more familiarly known to his many friends and colleagues in Jordan as "Abouna Michele", has dedicated his life's scholarly





A fox eating grapes from a basket, from the mosaic floor of the Church of Deacon Tho mas at Uyun Mousa, near Mt Nebo, showing the quality of detail visible in the photographs in this book.

work to the excavation and study of the mosaics of Jordan. It is appropriate that the breadth and depth of his work --- not to mention the magnanimity of his personal character — shoutd be captnred in such a magnificent publication as this.

The first 31 pages of the book provide the most comprehensive and accurate overview of the mosaics of Jordan available anywhere, very intelligently organised into several sequentiat sections: The history of archaeological exploration in different parts of the country, technical research, protectioo and restoration, and the mosaics of several different periods, including the Hellenistic-Roman, 5th-6th century, 7th century, classical renaissance, and Umayyad periods.

Within this text are valuable essays about the Hippolytus Hall and the Madaba Map mosaics (including a comptete list of atl the legends on the Madaba Map), the Ma'in and St Stephens Church-Umm El Rasas mosaics, the classical personifications and motifs in Jordanian mosaics, iconophobia (prohibition or destruction of buman images) in the history of Jordanian mosaics, and the mosaics as historicat sources. This introductory text section finishes with a fitting list of the names of the ancient mosaicists, known from inscriptions in their works.

The bulk of the book that foltows reviews att the known mosaics of the country, arranged according to their geographic locations, starting with the important collection of mosaics in the Madaba region. Each mosaic is described in a section of text that is accompanied by excellent quality four colour and btack and white photographs (many covering full pages), black and white drawings and ptans, and many aeriat photographs of the sites and monuments described. The aerial photographs are particularly valuable, for they altow us to appreciate structures that are not easily discernibte from ground level.



Michele Piccirillo

The regions covered in the book are: Madaba City, Mount Nebo, Ma'in, Umm El Rasas, the territory of Madaba, Esbus (Hisban), Philadelphia, Gerasa, Bostra, the territory of Provincia Arabia (the Roman Province of Arabia), Palestina Prima, Palestina Secunda. Palestina Tertia (the three Byzantine era Palestinian provinces), the territories of Palestina Prima and Secunda, and the Umayyad cas-The book finishes with

maps of Madaba and Jerash, extensive notes on att 787 figures (photographs, maps and plans), references, an extensive hibliography, an index, and an index of mosaics.

While many of us are familiar with the mosaics of the Madaha region and

much wider appreciation of the mosaic and ecclesiastical or early Islamic heritage of Jordan, from sites such as Pella, Abila, Aqaba, Feinan, Qastal, Qasr El Hattabat, South Shouna, Mukawir, Kerak, Rabba and Amman, to mention only a few of the sites covered. For archaeotogy enthusiasts who enjoy making daytrips or overnight outings to Jordan's many antiquities sites, this book will prove to be an invaluable investment, for two reasons: It will add a major new dimension to your understanding and enjoyment of the sites you visit, and it will prompt you to visit scores of new sites that you may have overlooked in your explorations of the country.

Jerash, this book gives us a

The book is also a good investment in the literal sense, for I suspect that in a few decades it will be a collector's item, likely to be sooght after in future in the same way that people today look for old Roberts prints or other original representations of our landscape and its antiquities. The book is being sold at ACOR for JD 103 (\$175 abroad). The price may appear high at first glance to the average reader, but in view of the cost of scholarly and fourcolour art books around the world, this is, in fact, a very reasonable price for what it buys. For archaeology and history enthusiasts, it is a bargain, in view of the enormous amount of information and pleasure it will provide its owners for many years.

This book will be used by scholars for many decades to come, both for its text and illustrative matter. It allows readers to appreciate the mosaic panels and floors in their totality, with a sharpness and clarity of colour that are usually hard to match on the spot because of the dust that often covers the exposed mosaic floors in their original sites. Some of the aerial photos of large mosaic floors are breathtaking, especially the Umm Al Resas and Mukhayyat panels. The close-ups allow scholars to study the most minute details of the mosaic representations, and in many cases this book provides access to mosaic floors that bave been covered for protection or that were inadvertentty destroyed in years past. Scholars and lay persons

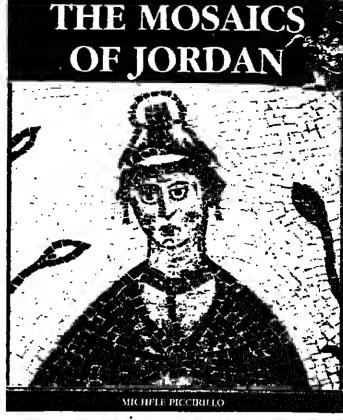
alike will find themselves, as I did, spending hours flipping through the pages, alternately marvelling at the beaoty of full-page reproductions of entire mosaic floors and enjoying the discovery of small details in the close-up photos of representations of people, birds and animals, flowers and ptants, and cities (those readers who know Greek will also enjoy reading the ancient inscriptions). I found myself wandering back into the nearly one thousand years covered by these mosaics (from the 1st century BC to the 8th cen-

tury AD), using the graph: information in pastor: t bunting and agricultural scenes to imagine what like was like in the past. In many ways, these reproductions allow us to enjoy the most satisfying aspect of archaeotogy for nonspecialists: The challenge to try and recreate ancient societies in our mind, using the hints and clues available in the splendid mosaic depictions. The scope and quality of

this book are such that it can probably transcend the traditional value of printed books and reach a much greater andience than onty those people who huy it or read it in a library. It would be a useful service, for exampte, if some publicspirited person or institution would buy several copies, cut out the full page and other large colour photographs, and mount them for permanent display in one or more lordanian museums. The photos are large enough and of good enough quality to be displayed in this man-

It would also be useful to produce a permanent travelling exhibition of the photographs for show around the country and abroad, in schools, community centres, museums and other appropriate venues. The material in this single volume is so rich that it would be a shame not to make it available to a larger andience, especialty to school children and teachers throughoot Jordan. Jordan Television could summon all its technical and creative resources to produce video versions of the photographs and information in the book, for a variety of scholarly, touristic and other audiences in Jordan and

around the world. Never before has so moch original visual information about ancient Jordan been made available to the onblic in such a convenient and high quality form; to make it availabte to a wider audience would honour the work of the ancient mosaicists and the contemporary people who produced this book.



Cover of the book The Mosaics Of Jordan

In this context, it seems to me that there is a direct and purposeful tink between the ancient mosaicists and their patrons who created the mosaics of Jordan, and the contemporary scholars and technicians who reproduced them in this book. The common theme in both cases was a desire to share with the public a sense of belief, passion and commitment to quality, whether related to religious or secular art in the past or to scholarship and publishing in the pre-

A noteworthy aspect of this book is that it was produced in Jordan, using a combination of local and international resources. One of the points that the publishers wanted to make was that a book of such high quality could be produced in Jordan. It now remains for Jordanians and their international colleagues to show that the precedent of such quality printing and binding can be maintained in the years to come, with or without the financial and technical expertise that has been available for this votume. The collaborative international aspect of this publishing project has been an important part of its success, and a fitting symbol of

what can be achieved when

Jordanians and their friends

in other countries put their

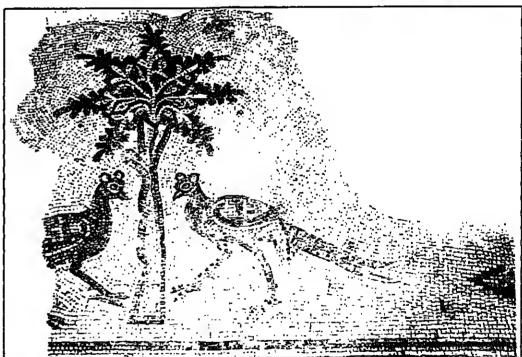
mind to do a job to the highest international standards.

All those individuals and institutions that have been involved in the publication of The Mosaics Of Jordan should be commended for the combination of their audacity and their triumph. One should particularly note the work of Father Piccirillo, the editors Patricia M. Bikai (of ACOR) and Thomas A. Dailey (of the United States Agency for International Development-USAID), ACOR (the publisher), USAID (financial support), the Jordan Press Foundation-Al Ra'i printing press, Modern Factory for Printing and Binding (stitching and binding), Adriana and Marino Ferrari (design), and Mr. Shishir Dutta wbo supervised the colour separation. printing, and binding.

They have cotlectively achieved a very impressive and useful deed that will give us pleasure for many years to come, and in return for which they will enjoy our continued appreciation and admiration.

If you're interested in antiquities and mosaics, buy this book for yourself. If you're not, buy it as a gift for a friend or family member who is, or for a tocal or national library.

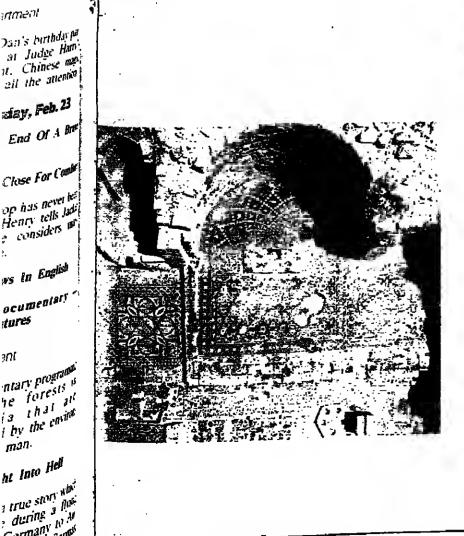
Rami G. Khouri



Two pheasants facing a tree, from a mosaic from a chapel at



A close-up of details of the Madaba mosaic map of Palestine. allowing easy reading of the names of the sites represented on the map.



The Church of St. Stephen at Umm Al Resas serial photo of the altar area and a



close-up of one of the representations of the ancient cities of Jordan and Palestine.

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Dying girl's illness renews debate on 'mad cow' disease

: By Cynthia Johnson

Reuter 15ONDON — The row in Britain over "mad cow" dis-Ease has taken a new twist with the disclosure that a 16-year-old girl suffering from a rare illness may have saught it from infected

Selvictoria Rimmer is suffering from Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD), a mysterious and usually fatal deterioration of the brain. The illness is rare and normally found in older people.

Some doctors say Rimmer may have caught CJD from eating the meat of cows suffering from a similar sickness, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or "mad cow" disse, which swept through British herds in the late

"We think this is the first certain case of BSE infecting a member of the human race by this method," said Dr. Richard Lacey, a microbiologist at Leeds University and campaigner on the dangers of BSE to man.

Other researchers, and the British government, say no link between the two illnesses has been shown. Britain's chief medical officer condemned as "irresponsible scare stories" press reports suggesting people risked contracting CJD from

They point out that the cause of Creutzfeld-Jakob disease is unknown in 90 per cent of cases and confirming its diagnosis difficult without a postmortem examination in which the characteristic "spongy" 前,最多的"智"。\$P\$在我们的时候有效的情况中,我们就会不会不会的感情的情况。

holes in the brain can be

There are inherited forms of the illness, which has also been contracted through medical treatments such as human growth hormone injections from donors who unknowingly had CJD.

To date BSE has been . found almost exclusively in British cattle. After the first case was reported in 1986, the number of reported cases peaked at 44,000-45,000 annually in 1992-93, according to John Wilesmith, the head of epidemiology at Britain's Central Veterinary Laboratory, which monitors the disease worldwide.

"There are now 300 fewer suspected cases being reported each week than at the same time last year," Dr. Wilesmith said.

Small numbers of cases have been reported in continental Europe, Ireland, Canada and Oman, mainly in cattle imported from Bri-

Researchers say BSE is the bovine form of scrapie, a sickness that affects sheep, and is believed to have been transmitted to cows through protein feed supplements which contained sheep brain infected with scrapie.

Once the suspected link was discovered the practice was stopped in 1989 and human consumption of brain and spinal cord material banned. Studies are under way on other possible transmission routes in cattle including from cow to calf.

Researchers said Britain had possibly been hard hit by BSE because of the num-

ber of sheep with a high level of scrapie, rendering processes that failed to kill scrapie in offal and the practice of feeding protein supplements in intensive

Some scientists say that not enough research has been done to prove that BSE cannot be transmitted via tissue other than the brain and spinal cord, and if, or how easily, it could move not only from sheep to cows but from cows to man or other animals.

Chris Bostock, a BSE specialist at the Institute of Animal Health in Berkshire west of London, says all experimental transmissions of BSE have occurred only when the brains of cows were used.

"There have been a large number of attempts to

transmit the infection experimentally from other cattle tissue, mainly to mice. These experiments are incomplete but as of today there has been no transmission from any tissue other than that of brain or spinal origin," he said.

Critics of the mouse experiments say they may not accurately reflect the risks to man.

"The mouse isn't very vulnerable to BSE, which mainly affects larger animals such as pigs, cattle and monkeys," said Dr. Lacey. Therefore I just don't believe the negative results. '

"Also it's just not credible that the infectious agent is found only in the brain and spinal cord when it has to pass through other organs to get there."

Concern over the risk of

BSE transmission to humans has spilled over from meat to medicines. A range of human pharmaceuticals use materials derived from cattle, including geneticallyengineered products using foetal calves.

Last month, Portugal banned two drugs prescribed to aid memory because they contained cow materials.

Another firm, DDI Pharmaceuticals of Mountain View. California, has detailed its findings on the risks of contracting BSE from its drug Orgotein, which contains a substance derived from cows' liver.

It initiated the research two years ago at the request of the Italian government which has been concerned about human drugs with bovine components. The

drug is prescribed for inflammatory conditions such as arthritis.

... The risk of transmission of BSE with Orgotein is less than one chance in one billion," Dr. Mark Saifer. DDI's vice-president and scientific director, said of the findings.

About eight years after the first reported case of BSE, the international debate over the disease shows no signs of abating.

"People who say that there is transmission from animals to humans are speculating," said Dr. Richard Knight, a neurologist at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary who has conducted research into CJD.

People who have stated that it is absolutely impossible... are also making an unwarranted statement."

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Ethical dilemmas of test-tube babies under spotlight Bioethics Steering Commit-

By Suzanne Perry Reuter

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BRUSSELS — The new controversy over "retirement babies" highlights the growing number of ethical dilemmas tied to scientific advances in artificially producing babies.

Cases involving a 59vear-old British woman who gave birth to test-tube twins on Christmas Day and a-62-year-old Italian woman who is several months pregnant have attracted a flurry of publicity and demands for new restrictions.

French Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy has called for an emergency meeting of his European Union (EU) colleagues to discuss harmonising rules on artificial fertilisation to prevent what he called medical tourism by wealthy women.

His government wants to restrict procedures to couples of childbearing age.

But some scientific exsperts say post-menopausal pregnancies are not the most serious ethical prob-

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lem in the area of in vitro fertilisation — the creation of human embryos by uniting eggs and sperm in a laboratory — simply because not many women are

likely to want them. "I think it's a lot of publicity about very few cases," said Margareta Mikkelsen, a Danish geneticist and member of a biotechnology ethics committee that advises the European Commission. the EU executive.

Walter Osswald, a Portuguese medical professor and chairman of an EU working group on human embryo research, said he opposes test-tube pregnancies for women older than 60 because statistically speaking they will survive for perhaps 12 or 15 years of their child's life.

"But Prof. Osswald said that if he had to pick the most important ethical question related to in vitro fertilisation - which produced its first baby in 1978 — it would be how to dispose of the multiple embryos which are created during the process of trying to get a woman pregnant but which are not implanted in her womb.

"It's sort of Russian roulette — whom are you giving the right to live?". he

The treatment of the embryos which are not implanted because they are not needed or are defective is a key preoccupation in the expanding field of bioethics.

Prof. Osswald's committee was set up in 1991 at the request of EU research ministers partly to review national legislation on embryo research — conducted, for example, to discover better contraceptive or infertility treatments.

The Council of Europe, a 32-member intergovernmental group based in the French city of Strasbourg, will address the issue in a bioethics convention which it is drafting.

However, it is the convention's key area of dispute because of differences between countries on whether to allow embryo research and if so how to

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

restrict it. according to a council background report.

The draft convention. which a council spokeswoman said is likely to be finalised by the end of the year, leaves it to national governments to decide whether to allow such research. But, in line with some existing national legislation, it restricts activities to the first 14 days after

The text also prohibits the creation of embryos for research purposes, but some countries are unhappy with that provision, the council said. The differences in this area

highlight a key difficulty in regulating ethical questions. especially on a cross-border basis — diverging cultural and religious, views.... :200

The council, for example. tried to draft a recommendation on human artificial procreation in 1989, but decisions must be unanimous and predominantly Catholic Liechtenstein vetoed the text because it wanted more restrictions.

The document was issued

as a report, however, and lays down a range of principles to cover in vitro fertilisation. It says the procedure should be limited to heterosexual couples. for example, and discourages the use of "surrogate

mothers, It says the use of donors to provide sperm or eggs which would apply to the case of post-menopausal women, who must use donated eggs — should be allowed only in exceptional

procreation should not be used to select the sex of a child except as a way to avoid an hereditary disease. It does not address the

question of race, another controversy because of reports that a black woman in Britain had been implanted with a white woman's egg.

Nor does it address the question of the mother's age, but Johanna Kits Nieuwenkamp, vice-chairman of the council's tee, said it is possible that a planned protocol to the bioethics convention on embryo research will tackle the issue. "Although the number of

cases may be low... it may be important to take a stand on this," she said. -

Carlo Casini, an Italian member of the European Parliament, said he is drafting a resolution calling on EU states to limit the age of mothers using in vitro fertilisation. He hopes the parliament will adopt the resolution later this month. He said governments should impose the same age

restrictions in these cases as they do for adoptions. But the resolution, if adopted, will have only

moral authority.
European Commission officials say legislation on such issues is strictly up to national governments, even under the EU's Maastricht Treaty.

Chemotherapy allows some cancer victims to save breasts

By Lauran Neergaard The Associated Press:

WASHINGTON -Surgery - sandwiched between two difficult sixmonth courses of themotherapy - not only dramatically improves survival for women with advanced breast cancer, it also allows some to save their breasts. researchers reported.

Women with locally advanced breast cancer - large tumours that may have spread to the lymph nodes typically have only a 20 per cent chance of living two years.

Doctors at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, beginning in 1979, treated 158 of these women by giving them intensive chemotherapy for as much as six months before

The chemotherapy shrank the tumours dramatically, making it easier for surgeons to remove all the malignant cells, said lead researcher Dr. Gordon Schwartz. After surgery, the women

underwent radiation and another six months of chemotherapy. Eighty per cent remained alive and diseasefree after two years, 61 per cent after five years and 55 per cent after 10 years, said the study, published in the journal Cancer.

Several other cancer centres have reported similar success, but the Jefferson study went a step further. It found women with advanced breast cancer to not

have to lose their breasts. Mastectomy is the standard treatment for such

advanced cancer. But 40 per cent of the Jefferson patients had their tumours shrink enough to undergo a lumpectomy, removal of just the tumour and

tectomy and lumpectomy

patients had the same sur-

vival rate, Dr. Schwartz said "The significance is this offers an altérhative," said Dr. Sandra Swain, a breast cancer specialist at Georgetown University. "Breast conservation is not routinely done, even at major cancer centres, for small cancers. Now we see it worked

Doctors at M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston are beginning to see similar results with lumpectomy, said Anderson oncologist Dr. Aman Buzdar.

for this advanced cancer.'

"This is very exciting," he said. The challenge will be changing "surgeons" idea that the more you cut. the more you're going to cure.

"We haven't found the holy grail," Dr. Schwartz cautioned. "These women had their backs against a wall and we were looking for a way to save their lives. Breast conservation was an unexpected plus but every woman isn't going to be able to have a lumpec-

Breast cancer is the

second-leading cancer killer among American women, after lung cancer. It takes 46,000 lives a year. Locally advanced breast cancer accounts for 10 to 20 per diagnosed each year, totall-

ing about 25,000 cases.

Dr. Schwartz stopped the chemotherapy before surgery as soon as each patient's tumour stopped shrinking, but said most took six months. Other centres have not reported giving the potent drugs for that long, and two of Dr. Schwartz's patients said liv-ing with a large tumour for six months was as hard as handling the chemother-

apy's side effects. 'It's a very tough decision to have to make." said Bobbi Kissinger, 48, of Washington Township, N.J., who underwent a lumpectomy two years ago: "But if I hadn't, I probably would be dead."

Dr. Schwartz, speaking to reporters in Washington, advocated such chemother-

apy for women with less advanced cancer as well. M.D. Anderson is pre-

paring to study that, Dr. Buzdar said.

"We are hoping that eventually what will happen is that lesser and lesser surgery will be needed and fewer and fewer women will lose their breasts," he said.

AIDS anxiety heightened by accidental cases By Jacqueline Frank

Reuter

WASHINGTON - People

with AIDS fear renewed social stigma after widely publicised reports of accidental transmission of the virus. but say they take heart at the quick efforts of health officials to ease public anxiety. "The public obviously is

concerned. The first thing they desire is reassurance from people they trust. said Mike Isbell, a lawyer with the Lambda Legal Defence Fund who represents people with the AIDS virus in discrimination suits.

"The first signs are encouraging that public health leaders are going to show leadership," Mr. Isbell said.

Within days of the report of two cases of accidental spread of the virus in young people. representatives of the Federal Centres for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta and the National Institutes of Health spoke

They noted that no new method of transmission was involved and renewed their calls for schools, families and caregivers to follow proper hygiene including avoidance of contact with the blood of infected per-

In one case, the virus was transmitted by a razor shared by two teenage brothers, according to the Centres for Disease Control. In the other, the infected blood from a five-year-old permeuted a skin rash of his two-year old brother. Rutgers University researchers in New Jersey said

Mr. Isbell and others said AIDS victims are understandably anxious these reports might worsen the stigmu of the diseuse.

"As much as one would comment that this a rare event and is not a new method of trunsmission, it is understandable that it makes people anxious." suid Dr. S. Kenneth Schonberg of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The hysteria that accompunied early cases of AIDS has not been seen recently in schools or day cure centres, according to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation in California.

SOLUTIONS

(1) LASS, CLASS, MASS, PASS.

(2) a- MESSAGE.

b- MISCELLANEOUS.

c- METRES PER SECOND. d- MANUSCRIPT.

(3) a- 238. (The series is formed by starting with number 3, and then forming each successive part of the series by taking the first. second, third, fourth and fifth powers of 3, and subtracting respectively 1,2,3,4, and 5.)

3-1=2; 33-2=7 3³-3=24; 3⁴-4=77;

(b) 26. (There are two alternate series, starting with the first two numbers, and easily formed by doubling at the preceding number in its series and subtracting 2. $14 \times 2 = 28 - 2 = 26.$





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-By Duane H. McGogy

Jordan, PLO report 'concrete steps'

(Continued from page I)

(U.N.) resolutions that (call for) land in exchange for peace (and) a complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories and the legitimate national rights of the Palestimians on their soil."

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On Jerusalem, the communique said, the joint committee "emphasised the importaoce of implementing plans to consolidate the Arab and Islamic identity of the Holy City and save the holy shrines there from Judaisation and usurpation."

Among the most tangihle outcome of the talks, according to the joint statement and officials, is a decision to resist Israeli moves to impose rules that could block trade between Jordan and territories which are expected to come under Palestioran autonomy rule under the Sept. 13 Israel-PLO accord signed in Washington.

The two sides also agreed on a definite timetable for convening meetings of joint committees on Jerusalem, economic cooperation, border and security affairs, refugees and displaced people and law and regulations and formed a new committee on administrative affairs, said the joint state-

Dr. Anani noted that "some nf the committees may have to work for three, perhaps four years," while the task of others was limited to the immediate

The meetings reviewed details of procedures related to the travel of Palestinians to and from Jordan, "who should cross, what kinds of permits, what kind of papers they carry," Dr. Anani told reporters. Dr. Anani said Jordan did

not have any problem with

honouring Palestinian pass-

ports if the Palestinian self-rule

anthorities issued them. "I am sure the Palestinians would love to issue passports because (passports) are a symbol of sovereignty, a sign of statehood," he said. "Other countries, and that excludes Jordan, may not accept (such passports), eventually prompting every Palestinian to acquire another set of docu-

ments. "Therefore we have to be sure of what kind of IDs they are going to issue, we have to agree on the modalities of doing that," he said. "We in Jordan will cooperate in any decision that the Palestinians

are going to take." "We have agreed on the framework and what should be negotiated over" in the context of trade between the two banks of the River Jordan, Dr. Anani

A Jordan-PLO agreement signed in Amman on Jan. 7 has set forth a broad outline of trade and economic relations between Jordan and the envisaged Palestinian autonomous territories.

Israel, which is conducting its own economic talks with the PLO in Paris, has been trying to impose hurdles in the path of Jordanian-Palestinian trade hy demanding tariffs while seeking free trade between itself and the Palestinian market, PLO negotiators have

"Trade is going to be one of the most delicate and dangerous issues to be discussed in Paris, and you all know that Israel is seeking to maintain the present economic status where the Jewish state maintains the West Bank and Gaza as a closed market for all, save itself, Dr. Anani said.

"Jordan and the PLO reject the minister said. Therefore we had to ... take a unified position that says we want to increase trade flows between the two banks without allowing Israel to interfere in

The Jordanian dinar will be "the" currency in circulation in the occupied territories, Dr. Anani said. But the Palestinians have to decide whether they want the Jordanian cur-

rency to be the "legal tender." "You cannot impose your currency as the legal tender on someone else," he said, "But any hank that deals with the dinar has to be subject to Jordanian laws."

Jordanian hanks are expected to reopen in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip soon. Five hanks have already heen granted "preliminary licences" by the Cen-tral Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and they are now awaiting an expected Israeli approval.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majuli stressed in a radio interview Wednesday that Jordan was committed to full coordination with the Palestinians and the other Arab states involved in the Middle East peace process and to collective Arab action in efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Dr. Majali told the Sawt Al Arah radio, which broadcasts from Cairo, that some progress had been achieved in talks between Israel and Jordan regarding some issues included in the Israeli-Jordanian agenda which was signed last Septem-

Stressing the importance of Europe's backing for the peace process, Dr. Majali said that the Jordanian government discussed Europe's role in this peace process with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe during his recent visit to Am-

Palestinian Amhassador to Jordan Al Tayeh Abdul Rahim was quoted Wednesday as saying that coordination between Jordan and the Palestinians had achieved major

The recent meeting between King Hussein and President Arafat in Amman "paved the ground for a new phase of closer cooperation and coordination between Jordan and the Palestinians," the amhassador said,

mon Peres as "very difficult."

"There were many surprises

into that again now." Reflecting back on the Cairo

meetings, the PLO chairman said "all the Israelis are very difficult in negotiations." Refusing to assess his nego-

tiating experience with both Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres, he said: "I don't want to interfere. This is an Israeli internal affair and I have no right to speak about it. Peres was representing the Israeli government and was mandated by Rabin and the Israeli government, as he bad mentiooed to the Egyptians and to me before our

since he founded Fateh in 1964 with his companions, most of whom had been assassinated, "I have become used to difficult times. I don't remember any period of my life without difficulties... it is what I had chosen right from the begin-ning. I had no illusions."

By Jeonifer Hamarneh Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Twenty-four high school students from around the Kingdom will today sit for exams in Arabic, English, mathematics and general knowledge as part of a multi-step competition in which two to four will be selected to spend two years abroad at a United World College.
The United World College

(UWC) are an international movement whose aim is to promote peace and understanding through education. The movement consists of eight colleges around the world, plus UWC committees in over 50 countries, an active association of former students from the programme, and an international office in London which coordinates and executes the policies of the UWC International

The UWC was founded in 1962. Jordan began participating in the programme in the early 80s and has so far sent 22 students (seven from the Irbid, Karak and Zarqa governorates) to live and study abroad. At present, three of the 22 (nine girls and 13 boys) are completing their senior year and three others are finishing their junior year.

The selection process usually begins in November of each scholastic year when an announcement of the UWC programme scholarships is made and application forms are sent to the school directorates throughout the country.

Public and private school students are eligible to compete. They are nominated as candidates by their respective schools. By the end of January, the Ministry of Educanon collects the applications, prepares the candidates' lists and the exams are scheduled for mid-February. Since its inception in Jor-

dan, the UWC programme has been administered through the Amman Baccalaureate School. School Principal Samia Al Farra, who is also secretary of the UWC National Committee in Jordan, told the Jordan Times that through living and studying together, studeots come to respect one another as individuals with different experiences, cultures and backgrounds to share. She stresses that in the

selection process, it is equally important to determine that a student will be able to cope with the cultural differences he or she will face in living in another country and dealing with peers from a diverse international community.

UWC opens up new world to Jordan's students

Expanding horizons

Alia Matari: When I left Jordan for the programme 1 was 16. When 1 returned I was 18. But 1 felt very maturc... I learned so much.



Jordan's experience in the UWC programme, she said, has met with great success.

Fifteen out of 16 students who were sent from the Kingdom to UWC Colleges completed their programmes and cootinued to earn bachelors degrees at Jordanian public and private universities as well as universities abroad. Two are working on the masters degrees.

Rami Issa Kandah, who graduated from the Bishop School for Boys in Amman, completed his two years at the UWC of the Atlantic. He went on to study electronic engioeeriog at Sussex University and is currently studying for his masters in Austra-

Khaled Bdour of Prioce Hassan Secondary School in Irbid went to Armand Hammer UWC and later studied physics at Yarmouk University. He is now at Virginia University working on a masters in physics.

The criteria for selection are merit, that is, academic achievement; ahility to represent one's culture and ability to contribute to the college life and benefit from it. The exams are conducted

in Arabic and English, and the main language of in-struction at six of the colleges is English. During March, a group

from those who have taken the exams will be called for interviews individually and in a group setting of their peers on the same day. The interviewers usually include former UWC students as well as members of the National

In Jordan, the UWC National Committee is chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath and includes officials from the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, the Ministry of Education, cultural attaches from the embassies of participating UWC countries as well as representa-

The eight UWC colleges are considered international communities where young people of all races, creeds and hackgrounds are given the opportunity of living and studying together. According to the UWC, students, "through their own experiences... learn about each other's cultures and societies, and in the process increase their understanding of their commoo humanity."
The network of UWC col-

tives of donor countries.

leges includes: UWC of the Adriatic in Italy, UWC of the Atlantic in the U.K., UWC of South East Asia in Singapore, Armand Hammer UWC of the American West in the U.S., Lester B. Pearson UWC of the Pacific in Canada, Waterford Kamhlaha UWC of Southern Africa in Swaziland, Simon Bolivar UWC of Agriculture in Venezuela, and Li Po Chun UWC of Hong Kong.

In all the colleges the programme combines academic study with service to the local community and activities that encourage in students a sense

of responsibility and interdependence. Seven of the colleges follow the two-year programme of studies leading to the International Baccalaureate Diploma which is internationally valid as a university entrance requirement.

Alia Matari completed the UWC programme at Armand Hammer in Montezuma, New Mexico in the U.S. in May 1990. Alia is a graduate of Bader Secondary School for Girls in Amman, She is currently in her junior year, majoring in French literature and minoriog in political sci-ence at the University of Jor-

For Alia, adjusting to a new cultural environment and dealing with teenagers from around the world was no problem. In fact, she told the Jordan Times, "I loved meeting other people of different backgrounds. It was an opportunity to understand and be a part of the main theme of UWC which is 'ioternational understanding'." Alia said the UWC course-

work was challengiog, but the strong focus on community service as well opened her horizons. "I joined one of the scarch and rescue teams which comprises New Mexico State Police and UWC students in efforts to locate missing persons." She said that once the team was called out to search for a child who was reported missing for several hours. When they found him,

she said, "it felt good to help people and to learn to cooperate with others in a joint mission."

Alia, who is a runner and the 1993 pan-Arah games Gold Medallist for the 1,500metre event held in Syria, plans to pursue a masters in either political science or international relations. She said she will be looking into scholarships to help pay for her graduate schooling as she would like to study in the

The young athlete and undergraduate said she would encourage any interested student to compete for the UWC programme: She added that she would love to see a UWC established in the Middle East, "perhaps in Jordan."

According to Mrs. Al Farra, as a participaning country, Jordan this year expects two full scholarships which cover tuition and board. A 50 per cent discount on airfare is contributed by Royal Jorda-nian (RJ). The other half is covered by Princess Sarvath, Students selected for the programme are responsible for their pocket money, she explained.

The National Committee makes its selection of nominees for the scholarships and sends them to the UWC by the end of April. The committee awaits information from the UWC that the nominees have been accepted. At that point, the committee notifies the students of their acceptance.

In the meantime, fundraising efforts are always under way because additional partial scholarships are sometimes offered but the National Committee is forced to decline those because the halance is hard to raise, said Mrs. Al-Farra. T. - ... o-year programme fer vision and board runs, depending on the college, runs between \$22-"It is difficult to convioce.

people to donate to a programme that works at the high sehool level. Many just do not realise the extraordinaryexperience such a programme offers our children."

Perhaps Alia summed it up best. "When I left Jordan for the programme I was 16year-old. When I returned L. was 18, but I felt very ma-. ture; I had different ideas; I learned so much; I learnedhow to love, not to hate people; I learned how to compromise."

Arafat accuses Israelis of arms trade (Cootinued from page I)

wantld threaten his life or attempt to sabotage the deal, saying: "Only the Palestinians and the Israelis, the two partners who signed the agreement in Washington, can damage

He said Israel's policy of delaying implementation of the agreement "will sabotage the peace process and reflect negatively on the whole process. It will backfire dangerously... not only on Palestinians, but on the whole area because confusion is contagious and will spread throughout the region... it will lead to balkanisation as well."

"The Israeli government is not in a hurry to implement anything," he said. "We are late anyway because implementation of the agreement; the beginning of withdrawal should have been on Dec. 13. According to the self-rule

agreement, Israeli troops should have started withdrawing from Gaza Strip and Jericho on Dec. 13 to be finalised on April 13. Disputes over security on border crossings between Jordan and Jericho and between Egypt and the Gaza Strip, as well as the size of Jericho and the area of Jewish settlements in Gaza Strip delayed implementation. The two sides succeeded in initialling a security agreement in Cairo on Feh. 9, hut many issues remained unresolved.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has said aoother month was needed to resolve pending issues.

We have to remember what

Rabin had said about having no sacred dates: How can this be accepted internationally, and from the American admiistration, and from U.S. President Clinton, since the agreement was signed under his auspices?" Mr. Arafat said.

Especially the dates are the main part of the agreement. But until now, two months have passed and nothing has been implemented on the ground.

The 65-year-old PLO leader switched from Arabic to Enghish when he spoke in a soft voice. His body rocked in his chair io a sign of oervousness. He sought help in English from two press advisers attending

NATO

(Continued from page I) request for urgent reinforcements.

 France, which has the biggest contingent of peacekeepers in ex-Yugoslavia, turned down the U.N.re-

- Serb snipets shot a Muslim civilian dead in Sarajevo in the second reported violation of a five-day old ceasefire.

"This is the first time I speak to the press after the Cairo agreement. Even in Cairo I did not speak about it," he said. Fumbling with his files on his desk, he picked up a docu-

ment, put on his looking glasses and started reading out the remaining "difficult issues and problems" which needed further negotiations in Cairo, Taha and in a meeting between him agreement. "The Palestinian security

forces and the police force are still one of the problems that still have to be settled. The size of Jericho area has not been settled. Other main issues concerning the security zone for the settlements in Gaza Strip."

"They (Israelis) are asking more than what they had asked before. In the beginning they asked for 170 square kilometres in the Gaza Strip, half the area of the strip, and then 32 square kilometres and about 20 the zoning."

He said Israelis had not given the Palestinians the size of the police force they want deployed in the self-rule areas after Israeli withdrawal. "But in developed countries it is known for the security forces and police force that for every 200 people there should be one policeman. Io our case, especially that we are facing many problems, it should be one policeman for every hundred people, since we won't have an army to call in cases of emergency.

He added among the unresolved issues were the differences in security arrangements between the hridges over the Jordan River and Rafah entr-

There is no electronic line on the Egyptian-Palestinian border as it is now the case all along the Jordan River border. Between Jordan's border and the Palestinian territory at the other side of the river there is an electronie line with a depth hetween 2-3 kilometres... Israel wants to keep this electronic security line during the interim period."

Other details, he said, include the administration of the border crossings and security and liaison bureaus on crossings. "All these are still under

The I2-page detailed Cairo agreement included eight pages on border crossings' security arrangements. Mr. Arafat said the most

important thing about the Feb. 9 Cairo accord was that "it was the first agreement for the implementation of the declaration of principles which we signed in Washington."

He described his three-day negotiations in Cairo with Israeli Foreign Minister Shi-

The Cairo meeting was on the verge of failure even during the last minutes before the signing "because of Israeli insistence to adhere to certain conditions and certain demands; that is why it is clear that many issues in the agreement were left for further negotiations and agreement in

arrival in Cairo," However, Mr. Arafat said

No Israel-PLO deal (Continued from page 1)

The Palestinians are also de-

manding 100 armour vehicles fitted with machine guns, but the Israelis say they need only
30. The Israelis would prefer
armour-plated patrol cars.
Neither side said what com-

promises had been achieved. although chief Palestinian negotiator Nahil Shaath said discussions on coordination hetween the Israeli army and the Palesnnian police had been concluded. He said he did not expect the

agreement to be signed right away because the drafts have tn go hack to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin and PLO headquarters for review. Both Gen. Shahak and Dr. Shaath said there would be no separate agreement on the police, but a comprehensive security plan.

"We are still working out security on the sea, in the air and the coast," Dr. Shaath

He said the civilian committee had wrapped up discussing transfer of power on electricity and public work, and that there had been progress in the areas of communications. a postal authority, travel docu-mentation and telephones. Any agreements in civilian fields would also need to he reviewed at a higher level.

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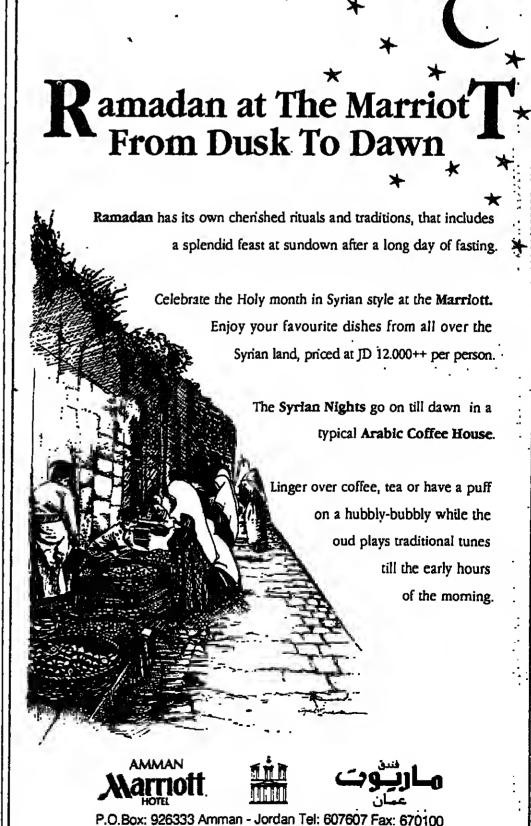
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Japan leaders reject charges of violating U.S. trade accord

flected Wednesday the first American salvo in a worsening trade dispute, rejecting charges it violated an accord on cellular phones and vowing to bring any U.S. retaliation to the global trade forum GATT.

"I regret the United States unilaterally determined that our country violated the (1989) trade accord," said Post and Telecommunications Minister Takenori Kanzaki.

"If the (United States)" adopts counter-measures against Japan as a result of the ruling, we will take appropriate measures according to international rules including GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). Mr. Kanzaki said in a terse statement.

In the first action against Tokyo after the breakdown of last Friday's summit, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey

Armen Armenakian

Ali Shawki

Mohammad Ali Abbass

Ali Musa

Mohammad Othman

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Kantor said in Washington that alone rose to \$3.13 billion from Japan broke a 1989 promise to

open its cellular phone market. He said he would propose a list of retaliatory strikes within 30 days and declared such punitive measures could cost Japanese firms hundreds of millions of dollars.

The row affects a sector not covered by the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks, the main forum for continuing trade dialogue. But it was widely seen as the first of a number of issues that could set the two economic giants on a collision course over Tokyo's ballooning trade surplus.

On Wednesday, the finance ministry said Japan's already huge trade surplus grew again in January to \$6.11 billion.

The figure for customscleared goods was up from \$5.22 billion in January 1993, and the politically explosive surplus with the United States

presents in concert

مجموعة موسيقى الصالة للمعهد الوطني للموسيقى

Tha Chamber Ensambla of the National Music Conservatory

طسي أصهبة موميقية

الساعة النامنة والنصف من مساء يوم النلاناء نلوطق ٢٣/ ٢ / ١٩٩٤

للركسز النفساني لللكس - الشاعسة الرايسة

Tuesday, 22 Fabruary 1994 - 8:30 p.m.

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يتضمن البرنامج مقماوعات له ، هسابلان وتيليمان وموتسارث

وليست ولأوريه وبراهمز .

In the programme are pieces by: Haydn, Telemann,

Mozart, Liszt, Faure and Brahms.

\$2.93 billion a year earlier.

Despite January's rise, economists said they expect it to drop in coming months because the high yen was making Japanese goods more expensive overseas, putting a damper on exports.

Prime Minister Monibio Hosokawa, although using more relaxed language than his postal minister, said he was worried about Mr. Kantor's talk of sanctions.

"I am sure there is no truth we violated the U.S.-Japan agreement," Mr. Hosokawa told parliament. "But 1 am concerned (at) the U.S. deci-

Mr. Hosokawa's spokesman said the Kantor decision did not mean immediate sanctions and Japan would wait to see wbat steps Washington takes after 30 days.

The 1989 agreement laid

ernment would give U.S. companies equal access to its rapidly growing cellular phone mar-

Five years later, the U.S. firm Motorola complained it sold only 12,000 phones on the densely populated Pacific seaboard linking central Nagoya with Tokyo.

Its main rival, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) Corp, sold 310.000 units in the same area. The Japanese firm at the

heart of the dispute denied it was involved in any government attempt to freeze out Motorola.

A spokesman for Nippon Ido Tsushin Corp (IDO), which sells Motorola's cellular phone system in Japan, said the U.S. firm's inability to crack the Pacific seaboard market was the result solely of business, not political, deci-

IDO handles both Motorola and NTT systems because a pre-1989 industry arrangement bad already carved up the cellular phone market by zones and wavelengths.

Kuwait tries to trim spending

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait is trying to trim heavy spending planned by some departments for next fiscal year. Finance Minister Nasser Abdullah Al Rodhan was reported Wednes-

day as saying.
"Rodhan said the finance ministry will work on reducing estimated budgets presented by some government authorities because they included bigh figures," Al Watan news-

The emirate projects a deficit of 1.2 billion dinars (\$4.1 billion) for the current 1993/94 fiscal year that started on July 1. and estimates it will run deficits of at least that level for the next four years.

Al Watan reported Sheikh Rodhan said without elaborating top civil servants' "rewards" would not be affected by any trimming of 1994/95 spending. Last week officials said they were contemplating savings of 130 million dinars \$500 million) by trimming allowances for some top offi-

A drop in oil and investment revenue has made budget reform a necessity. Oil accounts for more than 90 per cnet of state revenue. Kuwait, a small Gulf country of 1.5 million people, has created affluent living standards and a generous welfare state by exporting oil. its one natural resource.

playing a healthy interest in blue chip manufacturings.

Japan trade. tainty throughout the region Seoul shrugged off the trade over the focus and force of the ballooning trade row between worries of its neighbour, dis-Japan and the United States affected most markets in a day There was improbed invesof patchy trade.

HONG KONG (R) - Uncer-

19,052.11, up 77.51 points, or

0.41 per cent. The Nikkei

would hover around these

levels until fresh developments

emerge in the trade issue.

"Tokyo shares defend on

what happens to the exchange

rate overnight as the trade row

unfolds in the U.S.," said

Jonathan Davis, broker at

The yen ranged between 102

and 104 to the dollar during the

day. There was support at 102.50, and market analysts

said it would probably ease

toward 101.90. Traders said

the market was confused in the

ABU DHAB1 (Agencies) -

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

banks are turning abroad for

investment as the local market

is relatively small and there are

no major investment channels

in the region, an official report

Overseas investments by the

Gulf country's 47 banks, based

mainly in the West in stocks

and securities, rose to 5.69

billion dirhams (\$1.55 billion)

in June last year from five billion dirhams (\$1.36 billion)

in June 1992, according to the

Their investments in the

UAE stood at only 1.1 billion

dirhams (\$299 million) in June.

almost unchanged from their

"The local market remains

The lack of investment

opportunities bas prompted

UAE banks to concentrate on

providing loans, mostly to

trade and construction. By the

end of June credits accounted

for nearly half the banks' assets

of around 150 billion dirhams

(\$40.8 billion), according to

Around 63 billion dirhams

(\$17.1 billion) of the assets are

based abroad. They include

36.7 billion dirhams (\$10 bil-

lion) in deposits with foreign

banks and 10.7 billion dirhams

limited although more secure

as there is no sharp fluctuation

of currency and shares here."

one banker said.

the central bank.

1992 level.

report by the central bank.

UAE banks boost

overseas investment

Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

brokers said.

tor sentiment in reaction to In Seoul, good news was North Korea's decision to found in the decision of North accept international inspection Korea to allow inspections of of its nuclear sites which its suspected nuclear facilities. pushed stocks sharply higher, But elsewhere the day's tradbrokers said.

ing was uninspired.
Tokyo's Nikkei recovered The composite stock index closed 18.62 points, or 2.06 per slightly but a lack of fresh news on the Japan-U.S. trade row sidelined investors, leaving the Nikkei hovering around The Nikkei average closed at

before the close led the Hang Seng index to close at 10,634.14 despite an initial 107-point jump to a high of 11,119.51.

Gold eased slightly in Hong Kong, ending at 383.40/90 an ounce against New York's

U.S.-Japan row affects Asian markets

light of the deadlock in U.S.-382.90/383.40.

points at 2249.0 off a 2253.1

but are "a little more relaxed"

cent, higher on 920.43. Brokers said blue chips continued to attract investors' appetite on the back of the strong yen against the dollar. In Hong Kong, a sharp fall

"U.S. and British interests bave continued to sell local stocks today and there was a rish before the close to complete sizeable sell orders placed earlier in the day," said Simon Chin, a vice president at Citibank Global Asset Man-

383.70/384.20 Tuesday close. It

(\$2.9 billion) in loans. The UAE last month im-

posed restrictions on credits in

a bid to prevent a fresh bank-

ing crisis and prompt banks to

invest more in the local mar-

The move has forced three

banks to raise their capital

while other units are expected

to follow suit to face a steady

increase in credits due to an

economic upturn in the UAE

and other oil-rich Gulf states.

A surge in credits in 1993

enabled most UAE banks to

make record profits, according

to the chairman of the UAE

Banks' Union, Abdullah Al Ghurair. Credits jumped to 6.5

billion dirhams (\$1.77 billion)

in the first 11 months of 1993

from 4.6 billion dirhams (\$1.25

"The absence of a formal

stock exchange and supporting

institutions are depriving local

investors from participating in

important economic activities

unlike in other countries with

firmer and more stable econo-

mies," the state-run Emirates

Industrial Bank said in a recent

The central bank report

showed deposits by foreign

banks with UAE banks were a

fraction of those abroad,

standing at 6.5 billion dirhams

(\$1.5 billion) in June and their

loans at 1.12 billion dirhams

(\$305 million).

billion) in 1992.

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bad opened in Hong Kong at

In Sydney, stronger overseas bourses belped lift the market to a higher close, reversing the falls of the last two days. The All Ordinaries closed up 15

One analyst said investors are awaiting the outcome of the U.S.-Japan trade impasse

about effects on the Australian market.

Bahrai

mport

Taiwan's brokers attributed early gains to bargain-hunting after two previous days of falk and the Tokyo market's recovery, but again, investors lacked

"people worry about uncertainties — Taiwan-U.S. trade talks next week on the central bank's monetary policy," said Barry Lin of Jardine Fleming.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There are likely to be a small number of minor annoyances in the early hours today but they depart as the day grows longer and we get further from the Moon square Mars aspect of the early A.M.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Ideal day to enjoy recreation with people you like. Put that skill to work also that is exclusively yours. Try not to get to hed to late tonight.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Doing whatever will please family the most, such as buying little gifts that show your thoughtful-

ness, is wise in the morning. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Ideal day for that little trip you have long wanted to take, or for working on mechanical things that appeal to you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Concentrate on how to add to present security in an ethical and clever way. Listen 10 what an expert has to suggest. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You

are clever and magnetic today and ean accomplish much through these traits, so get busy contacting key people. Enter-taining or being entertained is VIRGO: (August 22 to Septem-

ber 22) You have some good plan that can be put in motion easily during the coming days. Talk over the principles of same with those you want to work along with you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-ber 22) Ideal day to get out of regular rut and enjoy the com-pany of good friends you like: Repay some social obligation you may have and show generosity of spirit.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Contact that big-wig early who can assist you with some worthy affairs that means much to you. Pat credit matters behind you with alacrity and efficiency.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Ideal day to get oul to new scenes and personali-ties that can be belpful to you. Contact persons who can make

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Use your intuition and clear up those problems you have in a most astute fashion. Make sure you do not hurt one who is a friend, though.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Sit down early with associates and decide on future action which will lead to greater success. Being more tactful rids you of any opposition you may

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Ideal day to get much of that accumulated tasks completed and out of the way early. Adding comforts to home is important, Plan how to have more leisure in

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY FEBRUARY 18, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The Sun enters Pisces today with a tripple moon square to the Sun, Saturn and Mercury which sets us a bumpy course where we are easily distracted from the plans we have already set in motion.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) ldeal day to investigate the philosophy that will make your life happier in the future. Then step out with people you admire.

tics with kin, and there is no better day for them than now. Make sure life far happier by right thinking and right acting. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A good day to sit down leisurely with associates and dine while making better plans for the future. Do not neglect visiting with your good friend.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Think big and can make plans for increasing income in the future. Sit down with financial experts who are at leisure and get good ideas from them. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Good day to be with people you really like for recreadons. Take the time to improve your appearance so that you make a big hit

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) There are promises you have made that need to be kept today, or chores that must be done, so get at them. Use vision

in planning the future.

LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-ber 22) Ideal day to enjoy the company of friends you like and admire. Repaying some social

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

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obligation is good so that you are extended further invitations. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A-good day to sit with some bigwig you know and get the advice data and backing you need. Some civic task today could prove to be most helpful to

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Any interest you may have in some modern way of living can be investigated now and the best of such adopted. Good day to plan some little trip you have your heart set

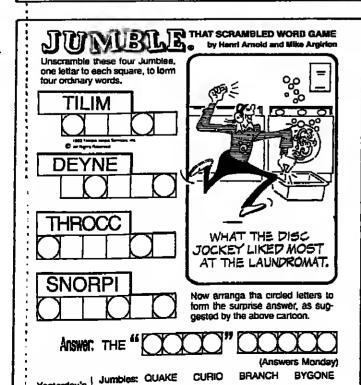
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Do those things that bring you added favours from. those who are of great assistance. to you. Show that you are appreciative of their goodwill.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You can come to a better understanding with associates in your home today than you can in the office. Contact those you want in your life in the days ahead also

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) There is some tasks you can get done today that should not be put off until another ome. Those around you can be most helpful

THE BETTER HALF, By Glastorgen GLASBERGE "I'm checking to see if they can

surgically remove old girlfriends from a man's brain."



How tha tough guys played golf — IN THE ROUGH

Peanuts

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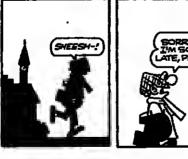








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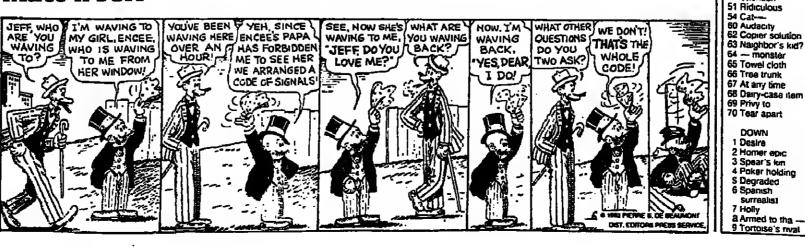




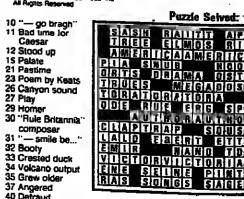




Mutt'n'Jeff



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4a Pay attention 50 Temple leader 52 Unsophisticated 53 Actresa Burstyn 54 "Beetle Balley" 55 Chris

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HONDON !

t effects on the Aug Bahrain oil production,

gains to bargain to around \$14.87 million from \$15.12 but again investors to bargain investors to bargain investors to bargain to ba

sople worry about the average daily production ten to 40,755 banded the average daily production s monetary policy: down from 79.9 million barrels or 218,929 b/d in 1992.

Lin of Jardine Fig. Refined 89.8 million barrels, or 246,128 b/d in 1993 comp It refined 89.8 million barrels, or 246,128 b/d in 1993 compared with 94.0 million, or 257,576 b/d in 1992.

Bahrain plans to modernise its agoing telinery at a cost of between \$600 and \$800 million.

BRUARY 17, 1994 feet in 1993, up from 333.43 billion a year earliet. It said total gas production in 1993 rose to 346.05 billion cubic

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for testing world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession nd bullion markets Wednes-

On the London For	eign Exchange an
U.S. \$1:00 costs	1.3498/08
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5	1.4540/50
7	35.56/60
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Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs **Belgian** francs French ftancs Italian lite Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

Iran to guarantee investments at free

zones

TEHRAN (R) - Iran, keen to attract foreign capital, will apply a new law from next month guaranteeing investments at its free trade zones, an official said Wednesday.

Morteza Alviri, President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's adviset for free zones, told Tehran radio the new law. passed by parliament five months ago, would be implemented from March 21, the

start of the Iranian new year. "According to new regulations all foreign investments in free zones are guaranteed. In order to assure the foreign investors that guarantees are serious, the (free zone) authority can back up the guarantee through foreign banks and insurance companies," Mr. Alviri told the radio.

"Now it is possible (for foreigners) to come into partnership with Iranian investors on whatever level they want, hes said. "Exit of capital is allowed according to the new regulations which state how to determine the amount of rival ot hard curency related to investment and its profit."

Mr. Alviri said the new law has lifted a 49 per cent ceiling of the share of foreign partners. He had said in November that the new law made it clear that foreign investors can hold up to 100 per cent equity in projects.

He had also said then that Iran's experience with free trade zones has failed to attract foteign investments Iran's first five-year develop-

ment plan launched in 1989 designated the Gulf islands of Kish and Qeshm and the port of Chahbahar on the Gulf of Oman as free zones, Iran said last week that trade agreements worth \$85.5 million have so far been reached at its new Srijan free zone in Kerman.

Indian firm to start recycling Gulf oil waste in Dubai in April

DUBA1 (R) — India's West-ern Oil Corp (WOC) will start a Dubai plant to recycle oil waste in the second quartet of 1994 and issue a tender to build another in Bahrain, a company

official said Wednesday.

The Jebel Ali (Dubai) plant will start up in April 1994. The Bahrain plant is on the drawing board and we expect tendering will start in May," T.M. Sunder, finance controller of WOC's parent Western India Group of Companies, told Reuters.

The plants will recycle oil waste from refineries, service stations, generators and ships into base stock, which is used for making lubricating oil, he said. They can also be adjusted to turn fuel oil into higher-

The Dubai plant, which has cost \$4 million so far, will initially produce 20,000-25,000 tonnes per year of base stock.

A second phase of construction, costing a further \$3 million to \$6 million, will raise the

said. The Bahrain plant, which has governmental approval, is planned to have an initial eapacity of 60,000 tonnes, according to Taib Bank which is arranging the finance and acting as consultant.

plant's output to 60,000 tonnes

by the end of 1993, Mr. Sunder

"The cost for this first phase is expected to \$18-\$20 million," bank vice-president V. Narayan Swami told Reuters. adding that a possible second phase next year could raise capacity to 100,000 tonnes a

Mr. Sunder said WOC expected to buy oil waste from national oil firms in the Gulf and municipal authorities in UAE emirates Sharjah and Dubai. It will buy fuel oil from state oil firms and possibly on

"(The technology) is flexi-

blc. We can handle a batch of (oi! wastes) and once that is processed, we can switch to fuel oil. The market will determine the sale mix," he said.

Mr. Swami added that much of the waste for the Bahrain plant would probably come from Saudi Atabia, where WOC was looking at the possibility of setting up more plants. The plants' main market for

lube oil will be India, which deregulated trade in lubricants in November, and where private firms are investing in lube blending plants. "Lube demand is growing

seven per cent in India, while it is more or less stagnant in the rest of the world," Mr. Sunder

The diesel would probably be sold in the Gulf. Mr. Swami

British inflation, unemployment rise

LONDON (R) - The British government received bad economic news on two fronts Wednesday, with inflation rising above two per cent for the first time in a year and unemployment growing after months in decline.

The job figures cast doubt on the strength of Britain's economic recovery but other statistics showed that business in shops had bounced back after a disappointing run-up to Christ-

The annual rate of inflation quickened to 2.5 per cent in January from 1.9 per cent in December, whiel unemployment rose by 15,500 to 2.79 million, or 9.9 per cent of the workfroce. Retail sales rose by 0.6 per cent last month after a fall in December,

Employment Secretary David Hunt played down the rise in the jobless total, saying unemployment was still on a downward trend.

'The last three months of 1993 brought exceptionally large falls and, as I said at the

time, the downward path can be uneven but it remains a downward path," Mr. Hunt

Prime Minister John Major's government, shaken by sex scandals and questionable financial deals, has staked its fortunes on delivering economic recovery.

The treasury said the statistics showed the target of recovery with low inflation was being achieved.

"Taking all the figures together, these trends show a combination of economic recovery continuing and inflation remaining low," a treasury spokesman said.

But a spokesman for the Trade Unions Congress (TUC) countered: "These are depressing figures from a still depressed economy. The April tax rises are casting a long shadow over the economy.' A fall in industrial output

reported Tuesday had sparked fears amongst economists that the economy was flagging even before various tax rises due to

"Certainly the economic recovery is paichy," Neil McKinnon, an economist at Citibank,

Mr. McKinnon said the rise in unemployment was worrying and stronger retail sales wer due to shops discounting prices. He added that if the government failed to keep trimming interest rates, the recovery could be detailed.

The government could justify a rate cut on these figures. It's an ideal set of figures for that," Robin Aspinall, at brokers Panmure Gordon, said.

The London stock market showed a muted reaction to the statistics with the key FTSE index of 100 key shares of 16.3 points at 3,409.5.

The pound dtopped by around half 2 pfennig after the data provided more ammunition for those seeking lower intetest tates.

"They show weaker than expected growth and weaker than expected inflation," said Tony Norfield, at ABN Amro.

Lebanon to fund privatisation with dollar bonds

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese government has approved plans for partial privatisation of several public utilities and asked parliament to authorise it to raise capital for them, through bond issues.

The semi-privatisation seen as a major step towards reconstruction of Lebanon's devastated infrastructure will affect much of the public sector, ranging from oil refineries and electricity to posts and public transport.

Officials said Tuesday the cabinet had sent parliament the draft of a law proposing the formation of "mixed" companies of public and private capital to take over the utili-

The bill would give the govemment power to issue treasury bonds in foreign currency to finance its share in the companies, which will be at least 20 per cent, officials said.

It will be the first time the Lebanese government has issued treasury bonds denominated in foreign currency, although it is already planning a \$300 million Eurobond issue to finance road-building around Beirut and infrastructure in the suburbs,

Officials were unable to estimate how much the government would need to raise in bond issues for the utilities.

speak about the size of the bond issues as there are no detailed plans ready yet," anofficial said.

Central bank officials have said the government is planning to issue "reconstruction bonds" to help finance Lebanon's post civil war rebuilding, but the official could not say if this included the utilities

some Beirui bankers expect the government eventually to issue reconstruction bonds in excess of \$2 billion, aimed in part at Lebanese citizens abroad.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri took the decision Monday to partially privatise the oil, posts, transport and electricity sectors and sent the bill to parliament under urgent procedures.

The bill encompasses Lebanon's two oil refineries, the postal service, electrical power generators, public transport and the railway services,

The draft states that the government may finance its participation in the companies from grants or loans or from the treasury bonds.

The government must hold a minimum 20 per cent of the capital of each company but its contribution in any company may not exceed \$200 million.

KLM and Northwest Airlines introduce world business class

AMMAN - KLM and Northwest Airlines, an alliance that now can take you to more than 350 cities in more than 80 countries on six continents; will be taking another major step forward with the introduction of world business class. The new service will be available effective March 27, 1994 on Boeing 747 and MD-11 fleet.

In Octobet last year KLM had withdrawn its royal class from its intercontinental services. Since then KLM flights offet a two class configuration - business and tourist.

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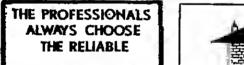
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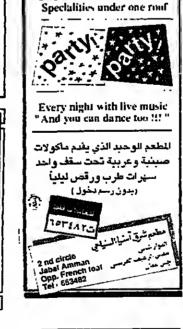


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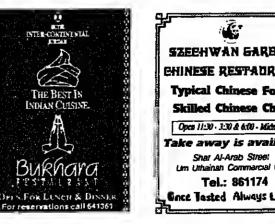


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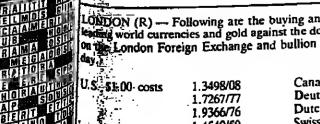
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Maradona rules

ROME (R) - A fake party led by Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona would win five mil-

lion votes in Italy's elections

next month, according to re-

searchers who say Italians are

so confused about politics that

opinion polls mean nothing. The Directa Institute said it

had slipped the fictitions

"Avanti Italia" (Forward Italia) Party. "led" hy Maradona, into a telephone survey of 800 eligible voters. "Of those inter-

viewed, 10.8 per cent... said

they supported the Maradona

party, "Directa said. The per-

centage corresponds to abour five million of the 48.4 million

Italians eligible to vote in the

March 27-28 election. "This

extraordinary result demons-

trates once again the state of

uncertainty and confusion

among Italians a little over a

month hefore the elections,"

Directa said. "It also con-

firms... the total unreliability

of any opinion polls conducted

now, even if they are statistically correct." The elections, which will follow two years of

corruption scandals that have

devastated Italy's policical old

guard, have thrown up a

plethora of new parties and

alliances. Other polls show

around 40 per cent support for

a rightwing alliance led by the "Forza Italia" (Go Italy) Party

of media tycoon Silvio Berlus-

coni and about 35 per cent for

a broad left grouping led by the ex-Communist Democratic Party of the Left. Directa said

last week that it had found two

thirds of voters had not de-

cided which party or alliance to

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In fake Italian election poll

S. Korea, U.S. and Japan welcome IAEA-N. Korea accord

Korea, the United States and Japan Wednesday welcomed North Korea's decision to allow international inspection of its nuclear sites, but cautioned that the impasse over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear weapons programme

The sigh of relief came after North Korea agreed to inspections at seven declared nuclear sites just six days ahead of a deadline that could have led to U.N. sanctions and an unpredictable reaction from the closed Stalinist regime.

The move to accept International Atomic Energy Agency (!AEA) inspections after a tense year-long standoff, defused the immediate crisis and relieved many South Koreans who increasingly feared that the impasse might lead to war. "We just managed to tide

over confrontation, although there remain many other obstacles to get over," said Chung Jong-Wook, a top South Korean presidential security advisor.

But Mr. Chung and other South Korean officials cautioned that the crisis would resurface unless nuclear transparency were secured fully through inter-Korean nuclear inspections and the North's commitment to denuclearisa-

And a presidential statement said there would be no immediate decision as to whether

BANDAR LAMPUNG, In-

donesia (R) — A powerful

earthquake measuring 6.5 on

the Richter Scale hit a moun-

tainous area of Indonesia's

Sumatra Island Wednesday,

killing at least 117 people, a

regional official said.

Quake kills at least 117 in

from Liwa.

to suspend the massive inint U.S.-South Korean military wargames, code-named "Team Spirit," a long-standing demand of Pyongyang.

In Tokyo, within range of the Rodong-1 nuclear-capable missile that North Korea tested last summer, Chief Cahinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said "inspections of nuclear materials at undeclared facilities will be necessary."

And in Washington White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said: "We hope they follow through on it. What is important is action on the

At the crux of the fears are two facilities at a nuclear complex at Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang, which North Korea insists are non-nuclear military installations and outside the purview of the IAEA.

South Korean and Western experts say the two sites, which are not covered by Tuesday's agreement and so will not be inspected by IAEA this week, are used for processing and storing weapons-grade pluto-

"This is only a beginning," South Korean Vice Foreign Minister Hong Soon-Yong said, demanding North Korea return completely to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty

Many Seoul-based diplomats "The problem has been pushed bit further down the road," commented one Western diplomat. "Back to square one," said another, referring to the North's threat in March

of 1993 to pull out of the NPT. That move drew Washing-ton, technically still at war with North Korea since the 1950-53 Korean conflict, into see-saw talks ith Pyongyang, promising improved ties and economic cooperation if the North yields and threatening to deploy Patriot missiles in the South if it

Said one veteran South Ko-rean reporter: "They did the least possible at the last possible minnte."

South Korea expressed hope that the two Koreas can now resume a suspended inter-Korean dialogue, a pre-condition for further high-level talks with Washington.

"The talks can be held before or after the results (of this week's inspections) are out," the South Korean vice minister

An estimated 10 million Koreans have been separated from their families since the war by the demilitarised zone that cuts through the Korean peninsula at the 38th Parallel.

Also waiong in the wings are South Korean business conglomerates whose hopes of entering North Korea's cheaplabour economic zones have been stalled by the nuclear

For the 36,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea. there was no prospect of an early decision on Team Spirit.

South Korean President Kim Young-Sam issued a statement Wednesday saying a decision on the exercise would only be taken "in the light of the results of further talks between the IAEA and North Korea, including inspection procedures and ometable."

We must keep watching the negotiations to find out the final outcome," he said, as reports from Vienna indicated a six- or seven-member IAEA team would leave for Pyongyang and Yonghyong within the next few days.
South Korean officials said

that improvement in inter-Korean relations could start with an exchange of special presidential envoys to discuss peace on the Korean peninsu-

Both Pyongyang and Seoul have indicated that the first ever summit between the two Koreas could be arranged through the exchange of spe-

Presidential advisor Chung said "working-level contacts (with the North) will be possible as early as next week."

In a speech to parliament, Prime Minister Lee Hoi-Chang expressed hope that a humanitarian programme would be launched to expedite the reunion of separated Korean fami-

porters trying alternative

routes to leave the township.

Aware of the AWB pre-

sence, some of the ANC pro-

testers carried posters reading:

Boer - Holland is your

Boerestaat," and "Terre'Blan-

che, are you a Christian? No

The posters were references,

respectively, to the Dutch ori-

Police, ANC protesters clash; 15 hurt

but with little success.

you are a white devil."

STANDERTON, South Africa (AFP) - At least 15 people were injured Wednesday in a clash here between police and African National Congress (ANC) supporters, peace

monitors and police said.

The ANC march to protest against right-wing plans to make Standerton part of a proposed Afrikaner "Volkstaat" — a white homeland was banned by the town's chief magistrate after white extremists threatened to disrupt it.

Around 200 members of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) gathered at the town's cattle auction pens to block the march, but police managed to keep the two groups apart.

Warrant officer Izak Van Zyl, a police spokesman, said one of the injured was a police major who was hit on the head when protesters stoned security forces trying to prevent then from leaving the Sakhile black township for the illegal march into Standerton.

Police repulsed waves of demonstrators with teargas and rubber bullets, witnesses told

Failing to break the police cordon, the demonstrators looted a liquor store and some nearby shops, burned a pickup truck and erected burning tyre barricades inside Sakhile.

A stand-off then developed between the protesters and a large and heavily armed police contingent, with the ANC sup-

One of the officers was in a policemen and returned fire at In their daily report on poli-

of a man in Katlehong, which unfil the troop deployment was regarded as the most volatile township in South Africa. The bodies of two women were found in adjoining Phola

dead.

gins of many of the Afrikaners or Boers - and to AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche. The ANC has also launched a boycott of all shops in the town and several businesses were evacuated Monday and hammer out a comprehensive Tuesday after bomb scares. peace plan for the area.

Few shops were open Wednesday in this southeastern Transvaal town in anticipation of clashes,

Police Wednesday reported another three deaths in violence-torn hlack townships east of Johannesburg, where army troops were deployed on Feb. 1 in a bid to halt the

They also reported the wounding of two traffic officers who were fired upon Wednesday morning by the occupants of a vehicle they pulled over on the outskirts of the Katlehong. one of the main flashpoints.

serious condition, police said. The attackers fled after bystanders came to the aid of the

tical violence, police said they found the decomposing hody

Park Shanty town, police added. Both had been shot

Political violence in the East Rand townships claimed 1,622 lives last year, a factor which prompted President F.W. De Kerk and the African National Congress late last month to

Apart from the deployment of troops, a programme to reconstruct damaged houses and restore basic services to the community has been laun-

In a separate development, the African National Congress (ANC) said Tuesday that the restoration of the Zulu king-dom would be against the tide of South Africa's history, while President De Klerk said he still hoped the issue could be successfully negotiated.

Both were responding to Monday's demand by King Goodwill Zwelithini for the restoration of the Zulu kingdom to its 1834 borders, and its sovereignty from the democratic South Africa to emerge from the April 20-38 first allrace election.

Jury finds for Michael Jackson in copyright trial DENVER (R) - A jury in the

cooyrighr infringement suit brought against Michael Jack-son ruled Tuesday that the pop star did not steal the 1991 hit song Dangerous from A denver songwriter. The fourman, four woman U.S. district court jury deliberated less than three hours before reaching its verdict. "It's three out of three;" said Los Angeles "lawyer Eve Wagner, Jackson's representative. Ms. Wagner said Jackson won a copyright infringement case in Chicago in 1983 and a similar case last month in Los Angeles. "We're glad justice has been done, she said, after the five day trial. Jackson testified Monday that he did not steal the song from Crystal Cartier, 38, who had sued him for copyright infringement. It was Jackson's first appearance in court since the 1983 Chicago lawsuit. Jackson even sang part of Dangerous from the witness stand and a few bars from another song. to illustrate how he creates songs. Dangerous is on an album of the same name; and, which has sold more than 14

Bee Gee tour axed as Barry Gibb has heart checks

LONDON (AFP) — Britishborn pop supremos, the Bee. Gees called off their spring tour of Europe after it emerged that singer Barry Gibb is suffering from heart trouble. Michael Eaton, the group's lawyer, said they did not know the nature or seriousness of the complaint, but hoped to get the result of tests Wednesday. We don't think it's going to. stop him doing most things., but certainly it would be unwise to tour until all the tests. have been completed," he said. Mr. Eaton estimated it could cost the group up to £250,000 (\$370,000) to call off the tour. The three-man group, whose alhum Saturday Night Fever was the most, popular ever until Michael Jackson's Thriller, was due to go on tour in mid-April with about 15 dates in Germany, three in London and a few in other countries.

rupturing hymen

SEOUL (AP) - A 40-year-old. woman has sued a medical institute for \$92,600 in damages on a claim that her hymen was ruptured during a medical exam, the Korean National News Agency Yonhap re-ported Wednesday. The women, identified only as Chung, is a 40-year-old office worker. Ms. Chung claims the Korea Medical Insotute should have informed her prior to the exam that it would result in ripping her hymen, which she says she "values more than her life," Yonhap reported.

Jakarta, on neighbouring Java Island, said the quake mea-

"At least 117 people were killed in the Liwa area, 450 were injured seriously and 500 not so seriously." Tarmizi Ali, a regional official in Bandar Lampung, told Reuters. "The situation is very con-

fused," he said in the provin- Geological Survey in Cocial capital, 120 kilometres said it measured 7.2.

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telephone in Liwa. The place is cut off and we are worried that the toll will rise further," he About 75 per cent of Liwa. which has a population of up to

"There is no electricity or

100,000, was believed damaged when the quake struck shortly after midnight. Meteorological officials in

sured 6.5 on the open-ended Richter Scale. The U.S. Geological Survey in Colorado

The epicentre was in the Indain Ocean, about 450 kilometres southwest of Jakar-Officials in Bandar Lam-

Indonesia

pung said roads and bridges in the region were damaged, hampering relief efforts. The quake, felt in Singapore

and Jakarta, struck at 12:07 a.m. (1707 GMT Tuesday) when most people were asleep. It was the most deadly earth-

quake in the Indonesian archipelago since December 1992, when more than 2,000 people were killed on the island of Flores east of Bali.

Italian left comes under corruption spotlight

ROME (R) — The deputy possible prosecution but does The Turin newspaper asked ager of the ex-Comm Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), Massimo D'Alema, was placed on an official list of suspects in Italy's corruption scandals Wednesday, Italian television said.

The move by the Rome prosecutor's office follows allegations of illegal party funding against the PDS, among frontrunners in next month's elections, by former Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. The report could not immediately be confirmed. The report, which was also

carried hy Italian news agen-cies, said Mr. D'Alema and eight other people whose names were not available had been registeren as suspects. PDS leader Achille Occhetto was not among them, it added.

lead to charges

The PDS, which heads a broad left alliance for the March 27-28 election, has denied allegations that the Italian Communist Party from which it emerged received any of the bribes paid by big business to tradioonal governing parties. Mr. D'Alema, who heads

the PDS group in parliament, presented himself to Rome Chief Prosecutor Vittorio Mele Wednesday, witnesses said. Mr. D'Alema, who was accounpanied by a lawyer, made no comment.

Meanwhile, corruption charges against Paolo Berlusconi, brother of television magnate Silvio Berlusconi who has entered Italia right-wing politics, were used by the left to discredit Silvio, his brother said in an interview published in La Stampa Wednesday.

Paolo if he feit he had been "taken hostage" as part of the campaign for the general election being held next month, and in which his brother is a

candidate. "It was completely clear that the left was using my case to hit out at Silvio," Paolo replied.

News of his arrest for allegedly paying a one-million lire (\$600,000) bribe to a savings bank was disclosed Friday just a few hours before Silvio was to give a widely awaited press conference to announce his election campaign plans.

On Tuesday, the Milan examining magistrates handling a two-year "clean hands" probe into corrupcon among politicians and businessmen freed Paolo after he explained he had paid a commission to the savings bank in a property

He called the idea "feel-

after a personality clash with Attorney General Janet Reno, declined to criticise directly Ms. Reno, Mr. Clinton or lawmakers in Congress by name.

Clinton urges Congress to move fast on crime bill

LONDON, Ohio (R) -- President Bill Clinton, saying Americans have waited long enough, urged Congress Tuesday to give quick approval to an anti-crime bill that would pay for 100,000 more police by cutting government bureauc-

Mr. Clinton used a trip to a police training academy in this midwestern city to signal his determination to come to grips with crime, now the top concern of the American people

"If Congress will pass this bill soon I will respond by cutting through red tape... so that within a year 20,000 new police officers are hired and start the training that they need to make our street safer, Mr. Clinton said.

But in Washington, Mr. Clinton came under fire indirectly from a former top Justice Department official who denounced the rush to adopt costly, get-tough, and-crime bills that will do little to improve public safety.

Former Deputy Attorney General Philip Heymann strongly criocised the idea supported by Mr. Clinton in his State of the Union address calling for mandatory life prison sentences for anyone with a third felony conviction.

good lawmaking" and said it would cost the government \$600,000 to \$700,000 per in-

Mr. Heymann, who resigned

China will not stop Hong Kong polls — Patten

CANBERRA (AFP) — Hong ducin Kong Governor Chris Patten vowed here Wednesday to press on with legislation guaranteeing credible elections for the British colony in 1994/5 - with or without Chinese agreement.

He told the National Press Club that despite 17 rounds of fruitless negodacions with Beijing, he still hoped to win agreement for elections which China would honour after it regains sovereignty of Hong Kong in

"But a bad agreement, by which I mean an agreement which did not guarantee credible elections in 1995, would be very bad indeed for Hong Kong," he said.
"Should it not prove possi-

ble to reach agreement with China, then we will have to proceed with legislation."

Britain's democratisation proposals for the colony have been the major focus of interest during all Mr. Patten's public appearances in a six-day

official visit to Australia aimed at promoting bilateral trade. He told an audience mostly of journalists here he was often asked why Britain was intro-

Kong at the eleventh hour. "My answer is simple", he said. "We're not."

The principle of democracy was incorporated in the joint Sino-British declaration which declared that "the legislature of the Hong Kong special administrative region shall be constituted by elections." The document also guaran-

teed rights such as freedom of speech, press, assembly, travel, movement, strike, religious belief and ownership of property and enterprises would be protected by law. "I regard it as my task to do

everything I can to protect and enhance those features of Hong Kong's life today and to safeguard them for the fuhe said, adding that Britain had a duty to achieve this as a signatory to the joint declaration.

The argument with China was not about democracy, but about whether the final elections under British sovereignty would be fair.

He said Hong Kong's United Democrats which swept the board at the 1991 elections had been consistent in their demands for an increase in the Legislative Council seats.

Meanwhile, China has begun seeking another 200 advisers from among grassroot in-stitutions in Hong Kong, it was reported in Hong Kong Wednesday.

Selection of advisers from district boards, urban councils and community organisations are being handled by Xinhua News Agency, China's de facto government representation in the territory.

The Beijing-run Hong Kong Commercial Daily said the list of candidates to advise central government will be submitted to Beijing for approval next month.

The new advisors will be in addition to 88 handpicked by Beijiing last year as the row between China and Britain escalated over governor Patten's proposals to widen the electoral franchise in Hong Kong of China's takeover in 1997.

Half of the 88 have already served their one-year terms and will be reappointed on March 2 by Chinese Premier Li Peng in a ceremony in Shenzben close to the horder with Hong Kong.

Top U.S. admiral to retire in sex-scandal fallout office, surrounded by mementhe judge's assertions that he

WASHINGTON (R) — Navy Commandant Admiral Frank Kelso changed course and said he will retire early becaue he has become a lightning rod for controversy in a sexual misconduct scandal that has shaken Adm. Kelso, 60, the chief of

naval operations and a member of the joint Chiefs of Staff, said only last Friday he would not leave early in connection with the 1991 Tailhook Association Convention scandal in Las Vegas involving the molestation of women by male navy and Marine pilots. But he told reporters at a

press conference Tuesday he was now satisfied that his own integrity had been preserved by a statement issued two hours earlier by Defence Secretary William Perry virtually absolving Adm. Kelso of direct knowledge of the Tailhook events or of trying to cover them up.

"I have become the lightning rod for Tailhook... and the lightning keeps striking. It is time for me to go away and let the navy a new leader," Adm. Kelso told reporters in his tos of a 37-year navy career. "The lightning rod is gone." Senior defence officials said

Tuesday night that Mr. Perry had recommended that President Bill Clinton retire Adm. Kelso in his current four-star rank and would ask Mr. Clinton to nominate Admiral Jeremy Boorda, commander of Southern NATO Forces, to replace Adm. Kelso.

Adm. Boorda, 55, who is based in Naples, Italy, and is in charge of NATO air power threatening Serb gunners around Sarajevo, would become the first chief of naval operations, to rise through the ranks from being an enlisted man to the navy's top job if he is approved by the Senate.

Adm. Kelso vowed only last week that he would not quit after a navy judge threw out the last three Tailhook cases pending against officers on grounds that Adm. Kelso's own alleged misconduct had undermined his authority to order up the Tailhook inves-

Adm. Kelso angrily denied

had witnessed such rowdy behaviour as fliers shaving women's legs when he visited the convention, did nothing about it and then manipulated the investigation to cover up his role when the affair mushroomed into a public

But the admiral reversed course on the retirement issue Tuesday after Perry issued a statement praising him and noting that the navy's inspector general had found no evidence implicating Adm. Kelso in Tailhook misconduct. "I regard Admiral Kelso as a

man of the highest integrity and honour." Mr. Perry said. Although no one was every convicted by court-martial despite complaints from several dozens of women, former Navy Secretary William Garrett resigned after the scandal broke and seven other admir-

als took early retirement.

Senior Pentagon officials told Reuters privately they were happy with that amounted to a high-level deal to achieve Adm. Kelso's symbolic early departure as well, because his refusal to go would have resulted in another major investigation into the conflicts over what he knew and when he knew it. Adm. Kelso denied that Mr.

Perry or Navy Secretary John Dalton, who also praised him in a statement, had sought his retirement. He said he would not have retired early without the laudatory statements issued by the civilian lead-"But I want to make clear

that Secretary Perry has not absolved the admiral because he could not legally do that," said one Pentagon official. "He simply pointed out the conflicts between the inspector general and the judge." The judge, Captain William

Vest, said in an opinion in Norfolk, Virginia, that because Adm. Kelso had allegedly witnessed misbehaviour during his Tailhook visit, he had no authority to appoint Vice Admiral Paul Reason to oversee the subsequent probe. Capt. Vest suggested that was part of a cover-up by Adm. Kelso.

Woman sues hospital for

The move is a first formal step towards investigation and U.S. congressman urges Burmese rulers to meet Aung San Suu Kyi

ma's military rulers are considering a meeong between their powerful intelligence chief, Lieutenant General Khin Myunt, and dissident Aung San Suu Kyi, U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson said Wednesday. "I think the future of Burma will be determined by two peo-

BANGKOK (AFP) - Bur-

Suu Kyi," Mr. Richardson (Demoerat-New Mexico) told a news conference here. He refused to speculate on whether the meeting would actually take place, although he had told the New York Times Tuesday that he was "cautiously optimistic" the

ple: Khin Nyunt and Aung San

proposal would be accepted. Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi told him she was prepared to open a high-level dialogue with the authorities, but would cononue to resist pressure to leave the country.

"She made clear her determination to remain in Burma and pursue efforts to establish a democratic, representative government responsive to the needs of the people," Mr. Richardson said. Fresh from a series of sepa-

rate meeongs in Rangoon with

the dissident, in her fifth year

of house arrest, and Gen. Khin

Nyunt, Mr. Richardson said

the ruling junta realised it must

deal with Aung San Suu Kyi if

Burma is to gain international

"She has to be part of any kind of political evolution there," he said. "She has hecome an international symbol. I think the SLORC realises

Mr. Richardson quoted Gen. Khin Nyunt as saying the military junta, known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), would meet in the next few days to 'eonsider authorising him (Khin Nyunt) to engage in talks with her.

Mr. Richardson, the first outsider to be allowed to meet Aung San Suu Kyi in almost five years, said he was "not clear" on wbether her house arrest would be extended, as announced in Rangoon Tues-The dissident told him she

had been notified of an additional year of detention. However, Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt said it was "too early for a final decision to be made," Mr. Richardson added. Mr. Richardson said the key

to-face meeong, which he described as a "pre-dialogue." "The SLORC made very clear to me that talks do not mean political dialogue. However, it is my view that it is

important to get these two

to Burma's future was a face-

major players on the Burmese scene together, to get to know each other," he said.

Such a meeong, he believed,

would enable the United States and other members of the international community to respond with a gesture toward the Burmese government.

If Gen. Khin Nyunt and Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi met, "some modest step on the part

would be appropriate," he But, he stressed, "we need to see deeds and not just words" hefore easing U.S.

of the United Stares I think

Mr. Richardson said he had asked the SLORC to allow other international figures, including representatives of the United Nations and the International Red Cross to see Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi and other prisoners of conscience in de-

four poliocal detainees he visited Tuesday in Rangoon's Insein Jail, expressing concern about their mental and physic-Mrs. Aung San Stru Kyi. daughter of Burmese independence hero Aung San, was

put house arrest in July 1989

for repeated public criticism of

the military government that

seized power in September

1988 and crushed a nadonwide

pro-democracy movement.

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Slipped the peing stripped of bis 100m Olympie gold medal in Seoul. slipped the the pleaded innocent here Tuesday to charges of plotting to sell italia. (F. ligg pleaded innocent here Tuesday to charges of plotting to sell italia.) nti Italia. (Foregated innocent here Tuesday to charges of plotting to senting ty, "led" (Foregated by Marc) mined April date and Astaphan, who has a medical office in telephone sugar will remain in jail awaiting a detention hearing on d. 10.8 Det those defeal charges of importing steroids and conspiracy to d. 10.8 per cent describute a cocaine-steroid mixture. Federal officials have instribute a cocaine-steroid mixture. Federal officials have opposed bail. Astaphan, from St. Kitts, was arrested last per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 Canada was forced 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight flight from Antigua 10 per corresponded by the month when a flight flight flight flight flig e corresponds to land in New York due to bad weather. Astaphan has also illion of the state and in New York due to bad weather. Astaphan has also illion of the state and in New York due to bad weather. Astaphan has also itillion of the 48.4 related in New York due to bad weather. Astaphan has also is eligible to voke leaded innocent to a related federal indictment in Buffalo.

1. 27-28 election lew York charging him with selling 1,300 vials of steroids to ordinary result.

rdinary result de Maradona offered chance to play

tainty and cody sureNos AIRES (R) — Diego Maradona, adamant that he leftere the electric still has a future in soccer, could play for local side San said. "It also local press reported Tuesday, San Lorenzo a said "It also: Lorenzo this weekend against prazir s world club and Lorenzo the total lines. Sao Paolo, local press reported Tuesday. San Lorenzo the total lines. Sao Paolo, local press reported Tuesday. San Lorenzo opinion polls met. Sao Paolo, local press reported 1 uestay, san president Fernando Miele says he hopes to fill the club's new opinion polls met. opinion polls conde. President Fernando Mucie Says in hope to the prospects of even if they are 43,000 capacity stadium Sunday but faces the prospects of even if they are seconds because Sao Paolo will even if they are se missing out on lucrative gate receipts because Sao Paolo will will follow two will leave many of their stars at home. Miele, who expressed will follow two will follow two yes interest in Maradona just hours after he was sacred into scandals that Newell's Old Boys two weeks ago, told local radio that he ated Italy's rolled like to sign him until the end of the season. "When the could also like to sign that the could for Newell's.

The could be was on the verge of signing for us he opied for Newell's.

The could be was on the verge of signing for us he opied for Newell's. fa of new parts; Miele said. "But now things are different and he could play for the Cuba." Miele said. "But now things are different and he could play for the could es. Other polk is San Lorenzo." Maradona, who faces criminal charges after 1 30 per cent support wing alliance led h firing an air rifle at journalists two weeks ago, has said he still hopes to play in the World Cup finals in July.

ile Ivcoon Silvio Ba Zico to quit J-League

TOKYO (AFP) - Brazilian legend Zico, the guiding light of Japan's emerging professional football league, will hang up his boots in June. Zico, 41 next month, will leave the Kashima Anders and retire from playing when the first half of the 1994 J-League season ends June 18, club Director Hiroshi Ushijima aid. But Ushijima also introduced to the press Zico's 41-year-old brother Edu, as the head coach for the Antiers for the new season due to open March 12, "The team is well-balanced and good with Zico around. So I feel a little anxious but I believe now there are players who can pick up where Zico will leave off," Edu said. Zico first quit football and became Brazil's first sports minister in 1989 after playing in the 1978, 1982 and 1986 World Cups. But he returned to competition in 1991 when he signed a three-year contract with Sumitomo, which later became the Kashima Antlers when the Heague kicked off last year. Zico and Kashima's two other Brazilian transplants, Alcindo and Santos, were to return to Japan next week after a vacation in Brazil.

fresh setback for Tapie

VALENCIENNES, France (AFP) — The French judiciary further tightened the screws on Bernard Tapie Tuesday, when a judge refused to drop demands that he quit as Olympique Margelle boss. Tapie was placed under investigation for alleged corruption last Thursday, following allegations that Margelle had tried to rig a league match against Valenciennes Eve Wagnet, Jacob last season. He was also placed under judicial control, the ment case in the distance of which were to pay bail of 250,000 francs (\$42,000), and a similar one of the club hy April 20 and not to talk to anyone else implicated in the affair. Tapie, who has also been accused of trying to interfere with witnesses, tried to have all three restrictions lifted but judge Bernard Betty has rejected his

World final awarded to Indonesia

NEW YORK (AFP) - Jakarta will host the ATP world doubles championship for the next two years -- the first time suce 1970 that an official year-ending men's tennis event will be contested in Asia. The \$1.3 million event, which is open to the top eight teams in tour rankings, will take place from November 23-27. The world doubles final had been conducted in Johannesburg for the past three years. "This decision represents a significant step for the ATP," said ATP chief executive officer Mark Miles. "Tennis South Africa has decided to shift their focus to grassroots programmes and we're excited about the potential in Indonesia." The ATP will organise and promote the event, which will be seen in 80 nations and which will take place at the Senavan Tennis Studium. South Africa will continue to host an ATP event in

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

WHERE ARE THE TRICKS?

vulnerable. South deals. NORTH usness of the of doing most than 0 J 10 9 3 • K J 10 5 2 SOUTH ♥A9 ♥K10542 The three of hose album Same

The hiding:
South West North East
10 14 4 Pass
Pass

ever was the st ever until Mids Opening lead: Nine of Charles lead: Nine of Charles lead: Nine of Charles lead: Nine of Charles lead in the defenders to take the tricks that are their due. First, they do not know how many fast tricks are said defender sees only half the defender resources makes it difficult for them to ascertain where those for them to ascertain where those tricks are available. Thirdly, a skilled declarer might be able to force the defenders to select a line before succh of the hand is revealed. Here's an example of a fine effort by South to hoodshipt the opposed. South to hoodwink the opponeous.
According to the Law of Total

Tricks, North-South should be able to score 10 tricks. That would in-deed be the case were the spade finesse to succeed. However, the bidding made it painfully obvious that it would oot, and declarer was looking at three fast losers in the

minor suits.

At the table, Jeff Meckstroth made it as difficult as possible for the opponents. He won the opening trump lead in hand and immediately led the nine of spades. West rose to the occasion by going up with the king and East followed with the three. Reading this as suit prefer-ence. West shifted to a low club and the defenders had no trouble getting

their tricks.
West's touching faith in partner is admirable, but was it occessary? We, too, would have defeated the contract without running the risk that partner was not signalling with that partner was not signaturing with his spade play. After winning the king of spades, the simple defense is to lead one of our minor suit aces. If we chose the ace of clubs and part-our encouraged with a high club, we would then cash the ace of diamonds before reverting to clubs. If, instead, the ace of diamonds was led and partner discouraged with the trey, we would then shift to a club

Harding arrives for Olympics

OSLO (R) — A cold but smiling Tonya Harding arrived in Norway Wednesday, a step closer to her dream of Olympic glory and to competing against her knee-clubbed rival Nancy

Harding - the last U.S. team member to arrive for the Lillehammer Games — flew into Oslo's main Fornebu Airport from Copenhagen after a long-haul flight from the United States and was the last person off the plane.

"She was last to arrive in Albertville, too," one U.S. Olympie Committee (USOC) official said. "It's a kind of debutante entrance.

Harding finished fourth at those games two years ago.

having chosen to train away from the Olympics until the last moment.

This time she was cleared to skate only last weekend after the USOC reached a deal with lawyers. She dropped a \$25 million lawsuit and will compete despite investigations into her possible role in the Jan. 6 attack on Kerrigan. Harding denies being in-

Wrapped in a long brown coat against the bitter cold and with a bag on each shoulder. Harding paused to wave and smile at photographers in Oslo as a U.S. official escorted her down a side stairway off the plane and into a car waiting on

The vehicle then drove off with an unmarked police car as escort.

Frantic photographers scurried from one exit to the other trying to catch a picture. One U.S. team source said

she was heading straight for Hamar, the skating venue south of Lillehammer. The USOC declined to com-

ment on her plans but said she would need to get accredited and settle into the athletes' village in Hamar.

Kerrigan, bronze medalist in Albertville, arrived in Norway last week and is training in Hamar for the women's singles figure skating in a week's time.

Michael Jordan struggles at start of baseball career

SARASOTA, Florida (AFP) Michael Jordan struggled at the plate here Tuesday during his first training workout since coming out of retirement from basketball to try baseball.

Jordan made ahout 100 swings from two Chicago White Sox batting practice pitchers, knocking most of them into the dirt near home plate or into the surrounding batting cage.

"I have to work on my hit-ting every day." Jordan said. "I have improved, I can feel it. It's just a matter of getting the fundamentals down. "I won't be a sideshow for anybody,

Jordan said. "I don't want to deteriorate the game. I'm going to play my bset. If my skills aren't good enough to be here, then I don't want to he

Jordan, a seven-time National Basketball Association (NBA) scoring champion, retired in October after leading the Chicago Bulls to three straight league titles. Four months later, he signed a contract to play for the White Sox.

The opening day of spring practice for Jordan also included running exercises and fielding work on fly and "It's good being outside," Jordan said. "It's different than being in a gym or batting

cage."
Jordan will not face fullspeed pitches for another week. He is expected to play in Chicago's intersquad game March 3, one day before the White Sox play their exhibition opener against Texas.

Fans are not allowed at practices until Thursday, Jordan's 31st birthday. But some spectators kneeled beneath outfield advertising signs Tuesday and used binoculars to catch a glimpse of Jordan, a baseball rookie outfielder who will wear

Seattle slam 76ers for ruled out fifth consecutive victory this year

Pierce scored 11 of his 17 points in the second quarter to lead seven players in double figures as the Seattle Supersonie raced past the Phi-ladelphia 76ers, 133-105 late Tuesdy, for their fifth straight victory. Shawn Kemp had 24 points

and 13 rebounds, Kendall Gill scored 19 points and Detlef Schrempf added 18 for the Sonics, who established a season high for points scored and have the league's best record at

Seattle led 66-45 at halftime and opened a 94-58 lead on a tip-in by Kemp with three mi-nutes left in the third quarter.

In Houston, Hakeem Ola-juwon scored 28 points, 14 rebounds and seven assists to lift the Houston Rockets to a 103-99 victory over the Atlanta

Dominique Wilkins scored 26 points for the Hawks, who were outscored 26-14 in the third period and trailed

throughout the fourth quarter. In San Antonio, David Robinson scored 10 of hius 34 points in a key second-quarter run to lead the San Antonio Sprus to their franchise-record tying 10th straight win, a 109-100 victory over the Indiana

Reggie Miller scored 23 for the Pacers, who had a sevengame winning streak come to

San Antonio held a 44-36 lead with 5:00 left in the second period before going on a 14-6 run to close out the half and grab a 16-point lead heading into the break. At New Jersey, Kenny

options, low mileage.

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Anderson scored 29 points and Derrick Coleman had 23 points and 16 rebounds to lead the New Jersey Nets to a 103-83 rout over the New York The Nets improved to 3-0

against the Knicks this season, In Orlando, Shaquille O'Neal scored 13 of his 36 points in the final 8:17 of the fourh quarter to lead the Orlando Magie to a 102-92 victory over the Boston Cel-

Sherman Douglas hit a jum-:r with 8:1/ ret Boston an 82-72 lead. At Golden State, Billy

Owens scored a season-high 29 points and keyed a thirdquarter surge to lift the Golden State Warriors to a 123-113 victory over the Sacramento

Latrell Sprewell, Chris Webber and Chris Galting added 17 points each for the Warriors, who beat the Kings for the third time in as many games this season.

In Cleveland, Gerald Wilkings scored 27 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers topped the Denver Nuggets, 111-99. Denver held a 24-23 lead with 2:45 remaining in the first quarter, when Cleveland went

on an 11-2 run to close the period and take a 34-26 lead. Wilkins hit a pair of threepointers and Mark Price added another to spark the run.

Brad Daugherty collected 19 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists as the Cavaliers won their third straight home game. At Minnesota, Christian Laettner collected 23 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists to lead the Minnesota Timberwolves to a 97-90 victory.

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number 45. Seles return

PARIS (R) - Monica Seles

will not be returning to tennis this year, her representatives International Management Group (IMG) said Wednes-

"She is not entered in any tournaments this year and she does not know when she will be able to return," IMF said in a statement. IMG, who issued their state-

ment during the women's inpionship in Paris, said: "There are still emotional issues resulting from the stabbing attack in Germany on April 30 and Monica will not be ready to play tennis again in the near future."

The Yugoslav-born former world number one was stabbed in the hack by a spectator during a match at the Hamhurg tournament last year. She has not played since and dropped out of the world rankings Mon-

LILLEHAMMER WINTER OLYMPICS

Koss sets speedskating mark

LILLEHAMMER, Norway (AP) - Norwegian speedskater Johann Olav Koss measured triumph Wednesday by the fraction to a second he shaved off the world record in the men's 1,500. For Tonya Harding, it was a measure of victory just 10 arrive at the Lillehammer Games (see separate story).

Thanks to Koss, who won his second gold of the games. and freestyle skier Stine Lise Hattestad, hosi Norway kepi pace with the leading Russians in the Lillehammer medals

Italian luger Gerda Weissensteiner and Canadian moguls specialist Jean-Luc Brassard also struck gold on the fifth day of the games.

The 25-year-old Koss, who broke his own world record in the 5,000 three days ago, clocked one minute, 51.29 seconds in Wednesday's 1,500 at Hamar's Viking hall. That broke the 1:51.60 mark rival Rintje Ritsma of the Nether-Jands set at the European championships at the same Hamar oval last month. Ritsma only managed 1:51.99 Wednesday in taking silver. Fellow Dutchman Falko Zandstra won bronze.

"The last two laps made a difference, but I didn't think this could happen," said Koss, who was cheerd on by a crowd of 12,000 in a hall shaped like an upside-down Viking ship.

Weissensteiner, a farmer's daughter from the Tyrolean Alps, captured Italy's second gold medal of the games. dominating all four runs of the women's luge.

Brassard and Hattestad unseated the reigning Olympic champions to win the men's

moguls events.

and women's freestyle-skiing

Hattestad, 27, who has concentrated on improving her jumps since winning a moguls bronze at Albertville in 1992, edged Liz McIntyre of the United States, with a faster time down the bumpy Kanthaugen course and the best points total of 25.97. McIntyre, who finished first in Tuesday's qualifying round, won silver, and Russia's Elizaveta Kojevnikova, the 1992 silver medallist,

had to settle for the bronze. Defending champion Donna Weinbrecht of the United States finished only seventh. In earning Canada's first

gold medal of the games, Brassard executed two perfect jumps and received maximum scores of 5.00 from four of the style judges. He wound up with 27.24 points to 26.90 for second-place finisher Sergei Shoupletsov of Russia. Although he was faster over the dips and bump, defending champion Edgar Grospiron of France had to serile for bronze with 26.64 points.

Hattestad's and Koss', golds on Wednesday gave the Norwegians a total of seven medals - four gold and three silver. Their gold tally was one more than the Russians' total.

The 25-year-old Weissensteiner's victory on the Hunderfossen luge chute strengthened Italy's hold on third place, giving it five medals overall

Russia surged into first place Tuesday with a 1-2 finish in the pairs figure skating, a crosscountry gold and a surprise silver in Alpine skiing. Thanks to Wednesday's silver and bronze in moguls, the Russians built up their medals total to 10, including three gold and

five silvers.

Weissensteiner, who set a luge track record on her first run Tuesday, finished the fourth run Wednesday with a combined time of 3 minutes. 15.517 seconds. Germany's Susi Erdmann took silver of 3 minutes, 15.517 seconds. Germany's Susi Erdmann took silver three-quarters of a second off the pace. Andrea Tagwerker of Austria won bronze.

"Super," is how Edmann described the winner's runs. "I was a little bit scared going down the fourth run becuase the ice was so treacherous," Weissensteiner said.

Samaranch visits Sarajevo

LILLEHAMMER (R) — Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch visited Sarajevo Wednesday to show solidarity with the shattered city that hosted the Winter Olympics a decade ago.

Samaranch arrived in the Bosnian capital later than planned from Split, Croatia, after heavy snow and ice had to be cleared from the runway at Sarajevo airport, International Olympic Committee (10C) Vice President Kevan Gosper

Samaranch, who arrived in Split Tuesday from Lillehammer, had long planned a return to Sarajevo to show the Olympic movement's solidarity with the besieged Bosnian capital and renew calls for an "olym-

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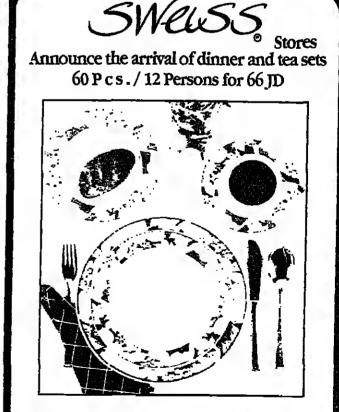
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ired during a media. Natice Korean Natice gency Yonhap r Wednesday identified only 0 As. Chung dame D it would reside er hymen. which values more that

Jane Fonda - In OLD GRINGO Shows: 12:30, 3, 8:30, 10:30 PLAZA

Stallone...in

Show: (2:30, 3:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Concord '2'

Ratman Returns

Shows: 12:30

Lebanon stands up to its right of resistance despite U.S. concern

BEIRUT (Agencies) - The government on Wednesday defended the anti-Israeli resistance in southern Lebanon, despite U.S. concern for the Middle East peace talks and a warning of Israeli retaliation.

"Israel is to blame for the escalation," Defence Minister Mohsen Dalloul said after a cabinet meeting.

"As long as the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon continued, we cannot forbid anyone from fighting this occupation. The (peace) negotiations will continue, as will the anti-Israeli resistance." he told journalists.

In the latest fighting, Israeli forces and fighters of the fundamentalist group Hizbollab traded fire with anti-tank rockets and automatic weapons after an ambush by the guerrillas, security sources said.

With the peace talks underway in Washington. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher called on Lebanon to calm things down, officials in Beirut said.

The government said it redived a letter from Mr. Christopher delivered by his ambassador Mark Hambley on Mon-

Security sources, meanwhile, said that Hizbollah guerrillas who killed four Israeli soldiers on Feb. 7 launehed three more attacks

TEL AVIV (AP) - In a

watersbed case in Israel's

attempts to make itself a player

in world financial markets, the

country's leading banks and

nine executives were convicted

Wednesday of criminal respon-

sibility for a 1983 stock market

The four-year trial put

Israel's top four banks and

their former executives into

tbe docket. It tested the

accountability for the banking

industry, which suffered a sharp loss of credibibity after

the government paid over \$7

billion to bail out thousands of

present the Tel Aviv stock

exchange as a viable option for

international investors, noting

that with over 600 companies

traded, it has more offerings

than every market in Europe

except London. But the

volume of trading is about

average for Europe at \$130

"You bankers felt that you

were a powerful force and you

knew that the country could

not exist without a banking

system," Judge Miriam Naor

said in a two-hour readout of

bank's most important asset,"

Mr. Naor said. "Once a bank is

at risk ... it raises fears about

its future ability to keep com-

She said the bankers knew

(Continued from page 1)

"Though there are many re-

servations (on the law, which)

we wished was presented as

part of a comprehensive tax

reform programme," said Mr.

Abul Ragheb. "I propose the

law be referred to the Judicial

Committee." where the gov-

ernment's view will be heard

and economic experts inter-

that the draft law will be dis-

cussed in an objective manner

and "without pre-determined

the previous government man-

aged to postpone the tax and

"if the House rejects the law

nobody can force us to intro-

Deputy Abdul Karim

Kabariti pointed out that the

consumption tax allows the

government to tax new items

through legislation issued by

the Cabinet, saving that discus-

sion of the draft law gives an

opportunity to control the

goods and services covered by

"The government now has a

flexible and dangerous law, the

consumption tax. through

which it can impose new taxes

and at the rates it wants." Mr.

Kabariti, a member of the

Financial Committee, told the

"It is possible that the exclu-

sion of services from the tax-

able items in the consumption

tax is what prompted the gov-

Jordan Times.

Deputy Jamal Saraireh said

Mr. Abdul Ragheb asserted

viewed on the law.

duce it.'

economy if the talks fail.

Tax law moved to House panel

ernment to introduce the sales

tax law which includes goods and services," he said.

But he said the opportunity

was present now to limit the

items that would be taxed by

introducing the necessary and

'appropriate" amendments to

the new law and "cancelling

the consumption tax law which

is a sword in the hands of the

government which uses it

Twenty-seven out of 73 de-

punes present voted in favour

of rejecting the draft law when

During its session, the

House set next Wednesday as a

date for holding a general dis-

cussion of the agricultural

situation in the country and the

policies of the Ministry of

Election deputies requested

the general discussion but the

House agreed that the govern-

ment report on it will be refer-

red to the Agricultute Com-

mittee before deputies respond

Thirty-one deputies re-

quested the general discussion

of the policies of the Ministry

of Supply which came under

fire from lawmakers during the

discussion of the food and

medicine situation earlier this

The House also approved

the decision of a special com-

mittee to reject the contesta-

tion of the Nov. 8 polls in

The House also listened to

minister's answers to deputies'

questions on a number of so-

cial and economic local issues.

Karak Governorate.

the issue was put to vote.

whenever it wants.

"Public confidence is a

insolvent investors.

million daily.

the verdict.

mitments.'

crash

Israeli court convicts banks,

executives in bourse collapse

against Israel's occupation zone in the south.

The Christopher letter, addressed to Foreign Minister Faris Bouez and quoted in a government statement, urged

"The continuation of military escalation can never he accepted because it would lead to torpedoing the peace pro-cess," it said.

The letter said the "very dangerous" fighting was contradictory to the climate of a summit between U.S. President Bill Clinton and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Geneva last month.

Israel warned, in the message sens via Mr. Christopher. that it would retaliate unless Lebanon stopped Hizbollah's

The group, whose arms transit through Syria, stepped up its attacks following an Israeli air raid on Tuesday that killed one of its guerrillas and

Both sides were on alert Wednesday, the second anniversary of the killing of former Hizbollah chief Abbas Mussawi in an Israeli helicopter strike.

Israeli troops were sent in as reinforcements after Hizbollah fighters attacked a patrol of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) with automatic weapons and anti-tank rockets

"tne whole affair would be

thrown to the government and

The verdict comes at a time

when the stock market is again

rocked by scandal, with two

gentlemen, that is criminal."

inside Israel's "Security zone." Guerrillas also fired five Katyusha rockets and fought artillery battles with the SLA. Palestinian dissidents opposed. to the Sept. 13 autonomy accord with Israel claimed the rocket attacks, in a telephone call to AFP in Amman.

At least one SLA militiaman was wounded in the ambush in the western sector of the zone. an Israeli military spokesman said. The two sides then exchanged about 50 rounds of artillery fire.

Security sources said an armoured Israeli ground force supported by helicopter gunships punched out from the occupied enclave in South Lebanon and searched fields in pursuit of ambushers. Residents of nearby front-

line villages, fearing a major Israeli thrust, fled northwards to safer areas, said the sources. The Israeli force retreated after a 90-minute operation that security sources said left no casualties on the 10th straight day of clashes in South

Lebanon. But Hizbollah

claimed 12 casualties among the SLA militia in the ambush. Israeli Cobra gunsbips went into action for the first time this month, strafing suspected infiltration trails in the foothills of Mount Hermon in southeastern Lebanon, the security

sources said.

3 sentenced to death in Mubarak

murder plot

brokers and a leading portfolio manager under investigation CAIRO (Agencies) - A militfor stock manipulation. ary court on Wednesday sent-The defendants Wednesday included four key banks enced two soldiers and a civi-Leumi, Hapoalim, Discount lian to death for a foiled extremist plot to assassinate Presand Mizrahi - plus about a dozen executives, all forced ident Hosni Mubarak, a source

in the military judiciary said. Guilty verdicts and sentout of their jobs after the The four banks, a holding ences were handed down after company and six executives a trial that began in January at were convicted of violating a the Sidi Barrani military base 1977 law against selling shares in northern Egypt, said the source, who spoke on condion false pretenses. Two of the banks and some executives tion of anonymity. Three other defendants, all soldiers, rewere also convicted of similar ceived life sentences.

charges of securities fraud. They all face sentences of up The government has made no official announcement abto five years in prison and also out the foiled attempt or the multi-million dollar fines. trial since plots against Mr. Two accountants were ac-Mubarak are not normally quitted Wednesday in addition made public. Any connection to another who bas since died. Other executives were acquit-

between the military and exted of some charges because tremists also is a touchy subthe statute of limitations ran Asked Wednesday about a verdict in the case. Colonel A sentencing date should be Nahil Al Gazar at the military set Feb. 22. Former Bank Leumi Chairpublic relations office in Cairo said he had no information, man Ernst Japhet, who fled to

the United States in 1987 when adding it was a "sensitive," his huge severance package created an uproar, returned to The Al Shaab newspaper of the opposition Labour Party Israel last month after the govreported last week that securernment requested his extradition. He will be tried separateity authorities headed off a plot to mine the airport at Sidi Barrani before Mr. Muharak

stopped there in November. Military sources told the Associated Press last week that Mr. Mubarak's name was not on the charge sheet. It referred 10 the crime as "an assassination attempt against an important figure visiting Sidi Barra-

A lieutenant and an army conscript sentenced to death will face a firing squad as is Egyptian military custom, the source said. He said no date was set but it will probably be in mid-March after 'Eid Al

The civilian who received the death sentence is at large. An Egyptian was slightly in-

jured Wednesday when an explosive device he was carrying in his bag on a public bus went off, security sources said. None of the other passen-

gers was hurt when the device exploded as the bus made its way through old Cairo, they

Police arrested the man, Essam Ahmad Abu Al Ala. and are questioning him to determine if he has militant connections. A small timebomh exploded

outside an Egyptian-Kuwaiti hank in Cairo on Tuesday evening, breaking the windows of the bank and of two cars parked nearby, no one was

The Egyptian Interior Ministry published photographs of wanted militants on Wednesday and pledged tewards for citizens who gave information on them.

The militants' photographs were displayed on the front page of the semi-official Al Akhbar newspapet.



National Liberation Army (NLA) of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq advance as NLA helicopters fly overhead in the rebel group's biggest military manoeuvres, held for five days near the IraqIran border. The group is based in Iraq. Hundreds of tanks, belicopters and tanks took part in the exercise, many of them operated by female NLA fighters (AFP photo)

Syria ready to sign treaty without waiting for others, Rabin claims

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Syria is prepared in principle to sign a peace treaty with Israel regardless of pregress made by the other Arab parties in the ongoing bilateral peace negotiations, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted as telling a parliamentary committee on

Wednesday's Englishlanguage Jerusalem Post said Mr. Rabin, who made the comment to the foreign affairs and defence committee of the Knesset, did not say how he knew of the Syrian willingness.

"I bave reason to assume that if we reach a peace treaty with Syria, it will be signed (without waiting for other treaties), but I will not tell you the hasis for my assessment," Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying hy the Post. Mr. Rabin said that if he

revealed further details, he would he belping the "saboteurs of peace," the Post

In the same meeting, Mr. Rabin accused Syrian President Hafez Al Assad of not doing enough to convince Israelis that he wants peace even though an Israeli proposal to hold a referendum on the Golan Heights was made to encourage the Syrian leader to

"Syria and its leaders are not

NIZHNY-NOVGOROD.

Russia (Agencies) — British

Premier John Majot travelled

here "Wednesday for a close-

up look at economic reform

and announced that Queen

Elizabeth II had agreed to

accept a long-standing invita-

tion to visit Russia later this

Officials travelling with Mr.

Major said the queen's visit —

the first by a British monarch

since the 1917 Bolshevik re-

volution — had been agreed

during talks Tuesday at the

Kremlin between the British

Prime Ministet and Russian

The Ktemlin also released a

statement confirming that the

British sovereign had accepted

an invitation from Mr. Yeltsin

for an official visit to Russia

later this year and both coun-

tries said exact dates for the

trip would be determined later.

popular visitor to Russia. very popular." Mt. Major said.

adding that the decision to

"The queen will be a very

President Boris Yeltsin.

Queen Elizabeth to visit

years.

in the fall.

ment," he said,

sin at the Kremlin.

Russia to seal relations

doing enough to demonstrate their goodwill in the peace process," Mr. Rabin told the Knesset committee, according to the Post.

"It is vital to explain to the (Israeli) nation, not just the government, that the other nation wants peace... I decided to hold a referendum to signal to the Syrians that the problem is not only to persuade me that, but the Israeli people."

Mr. Rabio said he was "distressed about this matter because I feel Syria is closed to any (gestures) and this is not the way to express a desire for

In an interview with Israel Television afterwards, Mr. Rabin said there were many things Mr. Assad could do short of visiting occupied Jerusalem as Egyptian President Aowar Sadat had done in 1977. As an example of Mr.

Assad's unwillingness to demonstrate goodwill, Mr. Rabin described bow Democratic Arah Party Deputy Abdul Wahah Darawsbe had asked the Syrian president for per-mission to lead a delegation of Israeli Arabs on a condolence visit after the death of Mr. Assad's son, Basel.,

"Darawshe was turned down," said Mr. Rabin. "I think that if the Syrian government had approved, it would have been some sort of extude towards Israelis, even if

accept Mr. Yeltsin's invitation

now seemed "appropriate" fol-

lowing the democratic legisla-

tive elections held last Decem-

He said the visit had been

A Buckingham Palace

spokeswoman said the queen

had made no final decision, but

that appeared to be a formal-

ity. According to tradition, she

makes overseas visits on the

prime minister's advice. Mr.

Major said he would recom-

mend a Russian visit, possibly

A royal visit would "set the

seal on the new partnership

developing between the Un-

ited Kingdom and President

Yeltsin's democratic govern-

Mr. Major, accompanied by

his wife, Norma, and Russian

Economics Minister Alexander

Shokhin, arrived in Nizhny-

Novorodo from Moscow fol-

lowing a formal departure

ceremony hosted by Mr. Yelt-

considered for the past several

the ones involved here were not Jews. They are, nevertheless, Israelis. Syrian media Wednesday

stepped up a volley of rhetoric against Israeli negotiating positions despite recent U.S. calls to tone it down for the sake of the Middle East peace process. The new wave of media in-

vective ended a brief respite following the Jan. 16 meeting between Mr. Assad and U.S. President Bill Clinton in Gene-Mr. Assad promised Mt.

Clinton to do his part to reach "a peace of the brave" with

Following Tuesday's te-sumption of Syrian-Israeli peace talks in Washington, the Tisbrin daily accused Israel of being "adamant and evasive" and "striving to make the peace talks boring and futile."

"Israel is adopting the policy of circumvention to frustrate all endeavours aiming to put the peace process back on the newspaper said.

The latest offensive hy the Syrian media, which act as a government mouthpiece, came in response to an Israeli proposal to raise the level of Syrian-Israeli contacts with a summit between Mr. Assad and Mr.

Damascus Radio responded last Saturday that the proposal was "no more than a manoeuvre and pretext to indulge distance them from peace."

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Saudi Arabia has agreed to

replace its entire commercial

aircraft fleet with U.S.-built

planes, turning aside bids from

the European consortium Air-

bus Industrie, President Bill

Clinton announced Wednes-

The \$6 billion deal is for

purchase of 50 planes built by

Boeing Co. and McDonnell

Douglas Corp., proving, Mr.

Clinton said at the White

House, "that we can com-

pete." He did not say how

many planes each company

Airbus, a joint venture of

Britain, France, and Germany,

also sought the huge contract.

But the Saudis chose their

principal arms supplier and the

country that organised defence

of the Saudi oilfields from Iraq

Besides the two big U.S.

manufacturers, the deal will

benefit firms across the coun-

try that make jet engines and

other parts of the planes. Mr.

would provide.

Saudis to buy \$6 b

worth of U.S. aircraft

Palestinian veterans seek recognition

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (AFP) — Old Palestinian guerrillas who fought against Israel have joined together under a veteran's association in a hid to improve living standards and win recognition for their sacrifices. While the majority of our

people were trying to earn a living and build a future under occupation, we were fighting for their honour," said 51-year-old Mobammad Al Gazawi, founder of the Association of Palestinian Veterans. "Today we live in deplorable

conditions. When I saw the sorry state in which my brotbers were living I decided last November to form an asso-

He has already recruited 1,300 members, opened offices in Gaza and the West Bank town of Hebron and contacted veterans' groups in Algeria. Canada, Egypt, Germany, and

Mr. Gazawi. wbo has a target membership figure of 7,000, said he expected to sign up Chairman Yasser Arafat shortly and considers his propeace association part of the Palestine Liberation Organisatioo (PLO). Members must be over 30.

bave taken np arms against Israel before the intifada began in December 1987 and be above suspicion of collaboratiog with the authorities. The association aims to find

members a joh, a house and ensure social assistance and in return for \$15 a year provides an olive green uniform. Diab Jumaa Al Awur is con-

tent at the age of 75 to have rediscovered the comradeship. He was sentenced to 35

years as an Egyptian spy in 1959 and released in a 1967 prisoner swap. "My son is dead aod its my daughter-in-law who looks after me," he said. "I have found my hrothers in arms again here in the associa-

At the age of 24, Mr. Gazawi joined the paramilitary Palestinian National Guard set up by Egypt to maintain order before-Israel seized Gaza.

Clinton said it would create

Saudi Amhassador Prince

Bandar, himself a pilot, stood

alongside Mr. Clinton in the

White House for the

announcement, along with

U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron

Brown and chairman Frank

Shrontz of Boeing and John McDonnell of McDonnell

The U.S. aerospace industry

Mr. Brown said the sale to

Saudi Arabia marked the

formation of a "real part-

Mr. Clinton said the United

States worked hard to con-

clude the sale and would keep

pushing for more business

In Seattle, Boeing spokes-

man Mark Hooper said the

long-awaited Saudi order is

"certainly encouraging." He

said the company still has to

work out exactly how many

is in the grips of hard times with thousands of jobs lost.

Douglas.

nership.

tens of thousands of jobs.

North Korea celebrates 'dear leader's' brithday

SEOUL (R) - North Korea's leader-in-waiting celebrated his 52nd birthday Wednesday with little sign yet that he was in line for the ultimate present - a final transfer of power from his aged father. North Korea's state-controlled media issued paeans of praise for "dear leader" Kim Jong-Il, the reclusive figure who stands in the shadow of his father Kim Il-Sung, leader of the Stalinist state since its turbulent birth in 1948. "The whole nation is seething with a festive mood to meet the auspicious day," said the Korea Central News Ageney (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo. Recent visitors to Pyongyang interviewed in Beijing said state and Communist flags had been hoisted for the celebration, a national holiday. Posters depicting the younger Kim's bespectacled, pudgy face and his birth date appeared on Kim II-Sung square and on prominent buildings in the centre of the capital, they said. But analysts noted that the celebrations were more low-key than in previous years. Although his succession was still on course. they said it was unlikely that any major change in Mr. Jong-Il's status was imminent.

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Havel injured during visit to Thailand

PRAGUE (AP) - President Vaclay Havel suffered a broken rih during his recent official visit to Thailand, the Czech News Agency (CTK) reported Tuesday. The agency quoted Mr. Havel's spokesman, Ladislav Spacek, as confirming that the injury occured while Mr. Havel was staying at the royal palace in Bangkok. Mr. Spacek said the injury wasnot serious, but be would not give any other details. Journalists travelling with the president said Mr. Havel fell in a bathroom at the residence, CIK reported. Mr. Havei returned to Prague Monday. He was not bospitalised, but Mr. Spacek said be will be away from his office for an unspecified time while the injury

LONDON, Ohio (R) - Call it the Clinton diet. After a speech Tuesday to police cadets, President Bill Clinton was ready for a bite. So be got into his limousine and bis motorcade stopped at a roadside sback called "Charlies House Of Meats" - evidendy; attracted by the blinking sign advertising "Clinton burger I.89." Inside, the president ordered a hamburger with mushrooms and cheese on an onion-flavoured roll. While waiting for his order, be slurped down a large coffee and a grapefruit-sized apple fritter. A reporter who was allowed inside pointed ont to Mr. Clinton that while he was given only a half a sandwich, the half was as large as a whole in most places. "I lost I6 pounds last year," Mr. Clinton replied, "and I'm going to lose 10 pounds this year..." He then boarded his Marine One helicopter and flew to nearby Colombus, where a motorcade took him to the "German Village" section of town and Katzinger's Restaurant, "bome of Kohler meats." There be sat down with two Democratic senators, Joe Biden and John Glenn and Mr. Clinton was served a pastrami on rye sandwich big enough to fill his hands and keep him busy for some time. When he was

Boeing planes the Saudis want. Aideed: Peace will return to Somalia

NAIROBI (AFP) - Somali factional leader Mobammad Farah Aideed has said that peace will return to Somalia after U.S. and other Western troops withdraw next month, despite weekend clashes that : allegedly killed 60 people.

Speaking to reporters after a dinner he hosted at a luxury Nairobi hotel for more than 100 Somalis on Tuesday. General Aideed said: "I believe that peace will prevail after the foreign forces leave Somalia in March."

"I'm sure that no fighting between factions will take place," said Gen. Aideed. speaking after signing a treaty between his Somali National Alliance (SNA) and a previously unknown group called the Somali Peace-Loving Union, which claims to represent a 100,000-strong coastal com-

munity from the port of Brava. "There are some foreign forces who are waging propaganda against the Somali people, saying that when the fore-

ign troops leave in March there will be war or fighting amongst Somalis. I believe this is only propaganda," said Gen. Aideed in his first remarks to western journalists since he arrived here in January. He was expected to go to

Eritrea for talks with President Issaias Afeworki next week, according to his foreign affairs advisor, Mohammad Awale.

Since the guerrilla leader whose rag-tag street fighters forced the United States to ahandon Somalia left Mogadishu for U.N.-sponsored peace talks with rival factions in Addis Ahaba in December, he has seized the diplomatic initiative, meeting the presidents of Ethiopia, Kenya and

Gen. Aideed, flanked hy his ally Omar Jess, did not comment on reports that Colonel Jess's fighters were involved in clashes with the forces of Mohammad Said Hersi "Morgan," son-in-law of ousted ruler Mohammad Siad Barre, in

may. According to a spokesman for Gen. Aideed's enemy. self-styled interim president Ali Mahdi Mohammad, 60 people were killed. But Mr. Awale, one of

Aideed's aides freed from U.N. detention last month, said an SNA committee was investigating the bloodshed. It's not in our interests to have fighting in Kismay." he said.

Gen. Aideed called for the formation of a democratic government in Somalia and said his talks with rival faction leaders had shown "common views on peace and reconciliation."

Gen. Aideed's faction opposes U.N.-sponsored local councils formed in Somalia. hut he said a transitional government could still he formed under U.N.-brokered agreements if the world body "does not impose any action on us" and allowed Somalis "to handle their own problems."

He said foreign troops

sbould quit Somalia but urged U.N. aid agencies to stay and help a people broken hy famine and civil war. He condemned the kidnap-

pings of foreigners, five of whom have been abducted at gunpoint this month. All were freed within days. After his guests broke their

daily Ramadan fast, Gen. Aideed told them the time had come to lay down their arms. "Somalia must be reborn in peace," he said.

He welcomed the Somali Peace-Loving Union's decision to join his SNA group, which now includes five factions, his United Somali Congress, Col. Jess's Somali Patriotic Movement, the Somali Democratic Movement and the southern Somali National Movement.

Gen. Aideed wheels and deals, enlarging his power base from the comfort of a \$2,000-aday, fifth-floor suite in a plush Nairobi hotel.

The Clinton dlet

finished, just three lone pickles were left on his plate.

Alleged rapist dies after organ severed

CAPE TOWN (R) — A South African woman has been charged with the murder of a man who died after she allegedly severed his penis when he tried to rape her. Angeline Esau, 57, appeared in court in the town of Malmeshury north of Cape Town Tuesday charged with the murder of fellow-farmworker Jeffrey Welkom, 30. Mr. Welkomdied of loss of blood. The trial was adjourned to March I.

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